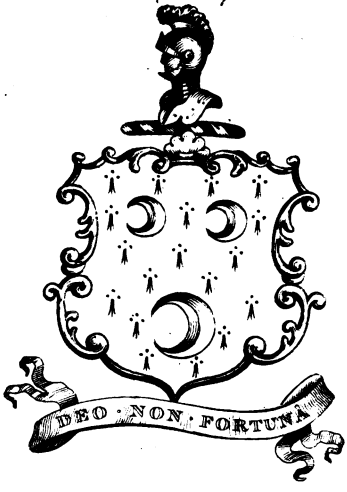

John Thomas Simes.

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TOPOGRAPHICAL CABINET,

CONTAINING A SERIES OF

ELEGANT VIEWS

OF THE

MOST INTERESTING OBJECTS OF CURIOSITY

IN

Great Britain.

Accompanied with

LETTER-PRESS DESCRIPTIONS.

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Sherborne Church Dorsetshire

MARY [illegible]

[illegible]

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, SHERBORNE,

DORSETSHIRE.

THIS magnificent pile of building contains specimens of different styles of architecture: in the porch and transcept of the south side, and at the lower part of the west end and north side are some semicircular arches with mouldings, characteristic of the Norman era; but the upper part of the nave and tower, with the east end, the aisles, and some chapels, display the style of architecture which prevailed in the reign of Henry VI. when the greater part of the Church was rebuilt, after a fire occasioned through a dispute between the monks and townsmen, and which originated in the trifling circumstance of removing the font. Leland says, the latter were so irritated, that a priest of Alhallows shot a shaft with fire into the top of the Church that divided the east part, which was used by the monks, from that frequented by the town. This partition happening at the time to be thatched, the roof was soon in a blaze, and nearly the whole Church was consumed. The interior is light, lofty, and spacious, having the roof supported by numerous groins springing from the side aisles; at the intersection of the tracery work are a number of shields bearing different arms, with roses, portcullisses, and other cut devices.

Many chapels of ease belong to this Church, which having been both cathedral and conventual, was made parochial on the dissolution, when it was purchased by the inhabitants and the vicar for 100 marks. In the original Church Ethelbald, king of the West Saxons, and Ethelbert his brother, grandsons to Egbert, were buried.

On the north side of the Church were the cloisters and domestic buildings belonging to the abbey; some small portions of the former remain, together with the refectory, which extended the whole length of the west end of the cloister, and is nearly entire, but divided into three stories, which are all occupied by machinery for a silk manufactory.

Adjoining the east end of the church is the free school, founded by Edward VI. This school has been governed by excellent preceptors, and has produced several eminent characters. Over the door is the following inscription:—"EDWARDI imperio patet hic schola publica SEXTI Gramaticæ cupidis nobile REGIS opus."

Engraved by [illegible] from a Drawing by [illegible]

Tilton Oak, Dorsetshire.

Published [illegible]

THE GREAT OAK AT SILTON,

DORSETSHIRE.

In a large field to the eastward of the parish church of Silton, upon a ridge which appears to have been formerly a boundary hedge, though now almost levelled by the repeated operations of the plough for years, with the surrounding soil, stands this venerable forester. Though it cannot be said to rank with the very first class of the large oaks of this kingdom, yet is it of very considerable size, and must be allowed to stand foremost in the second class; but in point of form and picturesque effect, it yields to none; its hollowed trunk, having scarce any intestinal life; its head bald, yet majestic in decay, and many of its lateral limbs withered, presenting a fine contrast to the few vigorous survivors.

This tree, exclusive of its other pretensions, has been rendered memorable from having been the favourite haunt of judge Wyndham, under the shade of which he was wont to regale himself with his pipe, during his vacation from the labours of his profession, and at the same time enjoy the rich, cheerful, and extensive prospect it commands.

The judge's mansion, now a farm-house, lay a little way above it, to which the field over which this monarch

of the grove extended its branches, was a sort of paddock or pleasureable appendage. Sir Hugh Wyndham, knight, was first one of the barons of the Exchequer, then removed to be puisne judge of the Common Pleas, and died in the exercise of his juridical duties, at a very advanced age, whilst attending the Norfolk circuit, and was buried in the church of Silton.

The village of Silton lies in a most beautiful part of Dorsetshire, at the eastern extremity of the county, bordering on Wiltshire, in the hundred of Redlane, seven miles from Shaftsbury. The church is a rectory, but its structure, for that country, has nothing to entitle it to particular notice, either as to its exterior or internally, with exception to a white marble monument of admirable sculpture, erected to the memory of judge Wyndham, representing a full-length figure of him in his robes. The village is most charmingly situated, on a gentle declivity, looking over a tract, prettily varied with wood and pleasing inequalities of surface, a view terminating with the obelisk, a conspicuous object in the grounds of Stourhead.

Engraved by J. Storer for the Antiquarian & Topographical Cabinet from a Drawing by Dayes.

Remains of Abbotsbury Abbey Dorsetshire.

ABBOTSBURY ABBEY,

DORSETSHIRE.

THIS once splendid and extensive Abbey was founded, according to some historians, by Orcus or Urkus, steward of the royal palace to Canute, and Thola his wife, about the year 1026, for Benedictines: but by others it is asserted, that Orcus only expelled the secular canons, who had for some time before been established here, and introduced regular ones in their room. Edward the Confessor bestowed upon the Benedictines of Abbotsbury all wrecks found on the shores near the place, which were afterwards confirmed to them by Henry I. who likewise added many immunities and privileges.

Of this Abbey so little remains, that it becomes extremely difficult to trace the arrangements of its parts; the most extensive portion of the ruins are used as a barn; but whether originally devoted to that purpose or not is now unknown. It is surrounded by a parapet, communicating with turrets at its angles; only half of this building is now in use. The walls of the other portion being in a ruinous state, are beautifully varied with the appendages with which nature has clothed them, and afford a most striking contrast to the part now occupied. The gate-house, formerly the principal entrance to the Abbey,

a portion of the adjoining walls, the dormitory, now used as a stable, a ruinous porch which apparently belonged to the conventual church, and two buildings, conjectured to be the malthouse and brewhouse of the original establishment, are all the other parts of which the least traces are left. The gate-house or entrance consists of a large pointed arch, the interior of which is groined, and a small portal separated from it by a broad buttress; over them are some of the ancient chambers, now used as a deposit for corn, and other purposes. Considering the general devastation of this Abbey, it is rather surprising that this part has received so little injury.

The church, which contained the remains of the founders, Orcus and his wife, with descendants of their family, together with many eminent personages, is totally destroyed, except the before-mentioned porch: a conception therefore can only be formed of its original splendour, from a knowledge of the numerous chantries and chapels which were attached to it. The principal of these, St. Mary's chapel, was in all its parts most exquisitely wrought, and finished in the purest style of English architecture. At the dissolution of monasteries the manor of Abbotsbury, together with the Abbey, were granted to sir Giles Strangeways, who preserved the chapel of St. Mary as a place of sepulture for himself and family, and near it erected a substantial mansion with part of the Abbey materials; but both chapel and mansion were levelled to the ground during the civil wars

Engraved by J. Sing for the Proprietors of the Engraving Colour from Drawing by J. Rathbone Engraver

Abbotsbury Abbey Gateway, Dorsetshire

Published for the Proprietors by Charles Lawrence, Bond Street, Jan. 1. 1808

in the reign of Charles I. at which time also the meritorious work of destroying the Abbey was completed to nearly the state in which it now remains.

Abbotsbury, an inconsiderable market-town, is situated in a valley, surrounded by hills of great magnitude, at the distance of about one mile from the sea-shore, and consists of three streets divided nearly into the form of the letter Y. The buildings are of stone; the number of houses is 173, the inhabitants are 778, whose principal employment is fishing.

On an eminence, half a mile south-west from the town, stands a small ancient edifice, called St. Catharine's Chapel, which, from the loftiness of its situation, and its own height, serves both for a sea and land mark. The materials with which it is built are a reddish stone, obtained from the hill upon which it stands: the whole building, although but recently repaired, is going fast to decay.

At the end of a ridge of hills, about a mile and a half west of Abbotsbury, is an old fortification called Abbotsbury Castle; its form is nearly square, with the angles rounded off. On the north side is a rampart, and on the south another; but neither of them rise above the area. On the east side are two very high and thick ramparts, and on the west are two others, but not equal in height or thickness to those on the east.

The greatest curiosities to strangers who visit Abbotsbury, excepting those already mentioned, are the

Decoy and the Swannery. The Decoy is about one mile south-west from the town, and is well covered with wood; here great numbers of wild fowl resort, and are taken. Not far from the Decoy is the Swannery, in which are kept 600 or 700 swans; formerly as many thousands!

Engraved by [illegible] from a Drawing by [illegible]

Cerne Abbey, Dorsetshire

Published for the Proprietors by W. Clarke, New Bond St. Hampstead, Old Bond St. Feb. 1. 1809.

CERNE ABBEY,

DORSETSHIRE.

CERNE is a small town, pleasantly situated in a valley watered by the river Cerne, from which the town derives its name. This place is only remarkable on account of the remains of its Abbey, which, according to various authorities, was founded by St. Augustine, who, in his zeal for the conversion of the Saxons, is said to have visited these parts. "Among the MSS. at the public library, Cambridge, formerly belonging to bishop Moore, is one of very high antiquity, supposed to have been the property of Cerne Abbey. It includes a collection of lessons and prayers, written in the ancient Saxon character; and in several leaves inserted in the beginning, contains, according to the custom of those ages, particulars relating to the Abbey. It begins with grants and indulgences to the faithful visiting and offering up their devotions at the several altars here, as likewise accounts of the respective dedications, lists of the Abbey possessions, and various other particulars. This house was surrendered by the abbot and sixteen monks in 1539, when it was valued at £515 : 17 : 10½."

At this time few remains of this splendid Abbey are existing: of the church no vestiges are to be seen; some idea, however, may be formed of its magnificence, by the

number of altars and chantries recorded as belonging to it. The gatehouse is the principal fragment, being still in tolerable preservation; it consists of a stately square embattled tower of three stories. In the lower room are two escutcheons, containing the arms of the monastery and those of Richard earl of Cornwall.

Other relics of the Abbey are a large stone barn, supported by buttresses, standing at a small distance from the gatehouse; traces of the ancient park and gardens, which are known by the name of Beauvoir; and north of these a large square area, with double banks and an outer ditch.

Castle Rushen, Castletown.

BERRY-POMEROY CASTLE,

DEVONSHIRE.

This magnificent fortress was erected by Ralph de la Pomeroy, who came into England with William the Conqueror; for the services that he rendered to that monarch in his expedition he was rewarded with fifty-eight lordships in this county: his progeny resided here till about the year 1550, when sir Thomas Pomeroy sold the manor to Edward Seymour, duke of Somerset, from whom it has descended to the present duke. During the civil wars in the reign of Charles I. the Castle was dismantled, since which time it has been in a state of decay, and now presents one of the most picturesque and delightful views that this part of the country affords. Within the court, and even on the ruins of the walls, are trees apparently of forty or fifty years growth, in a state of high luxuriance; these are intermixed with a variety of shrubs, profusely scattered among the broken walls, composing a scene of great interest and beauty.

The Castle is approached through a thick wood extending along the slope of a range of hills, that entirely intercepts any prospect to the south: the northern side is enclosed by a steep ridge, covered with oak, so that the Castle appears entirely secluded in a beautiful vale.

Its form was originally quadrangular, having but one entrance, which was on the south side, between two hexagonal towers, through a double gateway. Over the first may still be seen the arms of the Pomeroys. Above the gateway is a small room, supposed to be the chapel; it is supported by three pillars and circular arches. The remains of the interior or quadrangle are of a much later date than the rest of the building: this quadrangle was intended for a most noble structure, and though never completed, it cost the Seymours no less than £20,000.

Engraved by T. Starr, from a Drawing by Brockedon, for the Antiquarian & Topographical Cabinet.

Exeter Dome

Published for the Proprietors by [illegible]

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EXETER,

DEVONSHIRE.

EXETER, called the emporium of the west, is a city of great antiquity, and though its exact origin cannot be ascertained, there is sufficient reason to believe that it was a settlement of the Britons long before the Roman invasion. Its name, in the language of the Britons, signified the prosperous chief city in the wood: it was likewise called Caer Isc, and Caer Rydh; the former signifying its situation on the banks of the Isc, the latter the colour of the soil round the castle: it is scarcely probable that such names would have been given to it, if it had not been of British origin. This place is supposed to have been a very considerable Roman station, though some have asserted that we have no remains in proof of such a circumstance: in answer to this, it may be remarked that the destruction occasioned by the inroads of the Danes and Saxons, the erection of religious houses, for the foundations of which and for their cemetaries the old remains must have been removed, and, in short, the complete rebuilding of the town, since its destruction by Gueno, king of Denmark, in 1003, must have contributed to the decomposition of old materials, and consequently render the discovery of an-

tiquities if not impossible, yet extremely rare. Notwithstanding all these circumstances, many Roman remains and coins have been found here; some of the latter have been discovered in the walls.

Another convincing proof of this city having been a Roman residence is the Penates, or household gods, that, with other antiquities, were found here in the year 1778, in digging a cellar under a house in High Street, at the corner of Broad Gate, a description of which was transmitted by dean Mills to the Society of Antiquaries, as follows: "They lay within a narrow space, and not more than three or four feet below the present pavement of the cellar. The first a female figure, representing either the goddess Ceres or Fortune, four inches and a half high, dressed in a long loose garment, covering the whole of her body; her hair adorned with a diadem, like those which appear on the heads of Livia and Trajan's queens; her hair, tied behind, flowed down her back, her left hand broken off; in her right was a cornucopia. The folds of the drapery were so corroded by rust as to exhibit few traces of the original workmanship. Two statues of mercury, one four inches and a half long, the other four and a quarter. The former a perfect and well-proportioned figure: instead of a bonnet, or petasus, the wings on the head grow out between the hair; he has no wings on his feet; a long loose garment, doubled on his left shoulder, passing under the upper part of the arm, is brought over it below the

elbow, and hangs half way down his leg; his left hand, though turned up as if it contained something, is empty; his right holds a purse. The other statue of Mercury had the petasus and wings on his feet, was more clothed than the other figure; his garment entirely covering his right arm and side, and reaching down almost to his feet; his left arm in a similar attitude, with the other figure, but the shape of the purse in the right hand is different. The fourth statue represents Mars or some Roman warrior completely armed, with a high crested helmet, coat of mail, and boots, covering the whole front of the leg; both the hands broken off. The last of the figures only two inches and a quarter in height: from the delicacy of its make, the turn of the countenance and dress of the hair seems applicable only to Apollo; the right hand broken off at the elbow, the left holding something like a linen cloth, but so covered with rust that its form could not be ascertained. These five household gods were found surrounded by a considerable quantity of large oyster-shells: there were also, in the same mass, fragments of two urns, of different colours and kinds of earth; one of a dark brown, the other a bright red, the latter in particular very highly glazed, and adorned with fancied borders and figures in relief."

The city of Exeter has been several times besieged, but the greatest distresses that it experienced were inflicted by the Danes, who, in the time of Alfred, in violation of treaty, surprised and routed the king's

horsemen, and mounting their steeds, rode to Exeter, and continued there for the winter. Alfred, collecting all his forces, invested the city by land, and blocked up the harbour with a fleet. A Danish squadron bringing supplies to the besieged was defeated by Alfred's ships, which occasioned the Danes to capitulate and to evacuate the city and all the territories of the West Saxons.

The devastation of Gueno, already adverted to, was succeeded by the siege under William the Norman, who having invested the city, compelled the inhabitants to surrender, and to take an oath of allegiance.

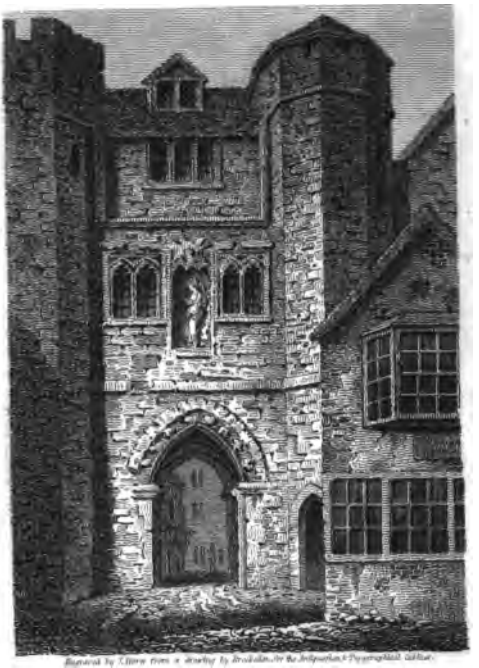
Exeter was garrisoned in the reign of Stephen, for the empress, by the earl of Devon, but being quickly recovered by the king, the earl took refuge in the Isle of Wight, where he was soon arrested, and banished from the kingdom. The next siege was in the reign of Henry VII. when Perken Warbeck assembled an army of 4000 men, and marching to Exeter, endeavoured to batter down the gates and walls with stones and iron bars (having no ordnance), and at length had recourse to fire. The citizens, perceiving great danger, let down from the wall certain messengers, to advertise the king, and then kindled fires within the gates, for the purpose of keeping out the assailants; by which means they remained secure till his arrival, who soon raised the siege. The last siege was in the time of Edward VI. and was occasioned by an insurrection of the people of Devon and Cornwall, on account of the pro-

posed changes in religion. The siege lasted thirty-five days, and the inhabitants were reduced to feed upon horseflesh and other loathsome food.

Exeter is remarkable for its magnificent cathedral, which is singularly interesting, from the various styles of architecture that compose it. From a very early period, it received progressive improvement till the time of bishop Quevil, in 1281, and to him we are principally indebted for the beauty and magnitude of the present cathedral. The uniformity of the structure, as it stands at present, seems to denote that the whole is the fruit of one grand design. Hooker, in his Worthies of Devon, says, that Quevil first began to enlarge and increase his church from the chancel downwards. In constructing the choir, he appears to have retained the old walls, which were altered and perforated with large windows, to correspond with his whole plan. The two ponderous Norman towers were great obstacles to the completion of the building with exact symmetry, and the prelate thought it more prudent to convert them into transcepts than to destroy them, and erect new cross aisles in their place: yet this was a daring attempt, and required great skill, as the architect was obliged to take away one side of each tower, nearly half its height from the ground, and construct a large and mighty arch, to support the remaining upper part. It now became necessary to have large windows in the towers, to light the new-formed transcept, and to correspond with those introduced into

the upper part of the choir: one was accordingly inserted in the north or St. Paul's tower, and another in the south or St. John's tower, in 1286. It appears that this bishop did not entirely complete the cathedral, for in the time of his successor Button great sums were expended upon the work. The choir was not finished till 1318, in the time of bishop Stapleton. The enthronization of this bishop was attended with great solemnity; when he came to the east gate of the city, he alighted from his horse, and walked in procession on black cloth, laid in the street for that purpose, attended on each side by a gentleman of high rank. He was received at Broad Gate by the chapter and choir, in their vestments: Te Deum was sung before him, and such an entertainment afterwards made, that, according to Hooker, a year's revenue of the see would not be sufficient to discharge the expense.

The situation of Exeter is commanding and pleasant: it stands upon the acclivity of an eminence, on the eastern bank of the river Exe, which flows in a circular direction round its south-west side.



Engraved by T. Ware from a drawing by Brooksbank, for the Antiquarian & Topographical Cabinet.

Broadgate, Exeter.

Published for the Proprietors by W. Clarke New Bond St. & J. Carpenter Old Bond St. Aug. 5. 1811.

Engraved by J. Storer from a drawing by Blackburn for the Antiquarian & Topographical Cabinet.

South Gate Exeter.

Totnes Church, Devon.

Published for the Proprietors by W. Clarke, New Bond St. and J. Carpenter, Old Bond St. Feb. 1. 1816.

TOTNESS CHURCH,

DEVONSHIRE.

THIS Church, which is a handsome structure, was erected in the fourteenth century; it underwent some repairs about twenty-five years ago, when the beautiful symmetry was destroyed by various tasteless alterations in the windows and other parts of the fabric. The chancel is separated from the body of the Church by an elegant screen of ornamental tracery, in stone-work; but the altar-piece, instead of corresponding with the rest of the building, is of Grecian design, having a classical semi-dome, supported by Corinthian pillars.

The date of the foundation of this Church was unknown till about four years ago, when the south-east pinnacle was struck by lightning, in a violent storm, and in its fall, besides other considerable damage, beat in the roof of a small room over the porch: in this room were two chests full of old records and papers, which becoming exposed by this accident, among them was found a grant from bishop Lacy for forty days indulgence "to those people who had or might contribute any thing towards rebuilding the Church at Totness." This was dated at Chudleigh, where the bishops of Exeter had a palace, 1432. It may be observed, in confirma-

tion, that the arms of Lacy, viz. three shovellers heads on a shield, can yet be seen on the porch, though nearly obliterated.

The town of Totness boasts of high antiquity: the Roman foss-way, extending from north to south, through Devonshire and Somersetshire, begun here. The situation of the town is extremely fine. The number of houses is 294: these are principally disposed in one street, about three quarters of a mile in length, terminated on the east by a bridge, over the river Dart. It was formerly surrounded by a wall, and had four gates: the east and north gates are now standing.

Ellistone Light House.

Published for the Proprietors by W. Clarke New Bond St. & S. Carpenter Old Bond St. May 1st 1806.

[illegible] QUESTIONS [illegible] LIGHT

[illegible]

EDDYSTONE ROCKS AND LIGHT-HOUSE,

DEVONSHIRE.

The Eddystone Rocks are situated about twelve miles and a half from the middle of Plymouth Sound: they are so exposed to the swells from the Atlantic and the Bay of Biscay, that the waves frequently break upon them with incredible fury. The numerous shipwrecks upon these Rocks suggested the necessity of erecting some beacon, by which the danger might be avoided, and accordingly a Light-house was built in the year 1696, by Mr. Henry Winstanley, of Littleburg in Essex. This building continued till the year 1703, when some repairs being necessary, Mr. Winstanley went to superintend the workmen. On departing for the Rocks, his friends remonstrated with him upon the danger to which he would be exposed in such tempestuous weather: he replied, he was so well assured of the strength of his building, that he should only wish to be there in the greatest storm that ever blew under the face of the heavens, that he might see what effect it would have upon the structure. This wish was fatally gratified, for while he was there, one of the most tremendous storms ever

remembered swept the building, with all its inmates, into the bosom of the deep.

The second Light-house was begun in 1706, and completed in about two years. This was destroyed by fire on the 2d of December 1755. Two men that were within at the time of the accident saved themselves by taking shelter in a cleft of the Rock, where, it being low water, they remained secure till a vessel arrived for their assistance.

A very particular account of this conflagration, which was attended with some uncommon circumstances, may be found in Brayley's Beauties of England and Wales.

The third and present Light-house was erected by Mr. Smeaton, in the course of the years 1757, 8, and 9, the last stone being set on the 26th of August 1759. The height of the main column was then found to be seventy feet; the lantern and cupulo were afterwards added, and the whole surmounted by a gilt ball. The lantern is an octagon, the frame-work composed of cast-iron and copper; the outside and basement of the edifice is of granite; the interior is chiefly of Portland stone. Round the upper store-room is the following inscription, sunk upon the stone.

EXCEPT THE LORD BUILD THE HOUSE,
THEY LABOUR IN VAIN THAT BUILD IT.

Psalm cxxvii.

North Lewel, Devon.

Published as the Act directs by W. Curtis Nov. Road & W. Lizars Edinburgh 1st Feb. 1791.

NORTH LEWE,

DEVONSHIRE.

NORTH LEWE is a secluded village, situated in the hundred of Black Torrington, in the county of Devon, and is distant four miles S. W. by S. from Hatterleigh.

The church of North Lewe is a small ancient edifice, having an embattled tower at the west end, with a rude pinnacle on each corner. It possesses nothing remarkable either in its architecture or monuments; the interior is fitted up in the ancient manner, with open seats. The living is a rectory, valued in the king's books at £27 : 8 : 9 *per annum*, and the king is the patron. The resident population of this parish, in the year 1801, was 683.

The only subject of antiquity, worthy of particular notice, is the remains of a stone cross which stands near the centre of the village, at no great distance from the church. The shaft is entirely destroyed, the other portion consists of three tier of steps surmounted by the ornamental basement of the shaft: these are much dilapidated; the ornaments are cinque and quatre-foils; the upper tier of the steps has been likewise ornamented, but only two of the quatre-foils are now visible. These crosses are supposed by some to have been objects of worship; but Mr. Clarke, speaking of ancient crosses, says, " I am

far from suspecting that our ancestors were so very weak as to offer to it any thing like that which was due to the Creator alone, or to have proceeded further than a profound respect towards what they might consider a memorial of redemption. Lest I should, however, go out of my depth in a theological question, I shall refer to the casuists for the distinctions usually made on the term worship; including, say they, respect, honour, reverence, and adoration. It is sufficient for me to notice, that, among the Saxons, the wisest of the people were worship-worthy, every one in his own degree. Again, when the lady Eadgith, queen to the Confessor, died at Winchester, seven nights after Christmas, 1075, the king (William I.) permitted her to be brought to Westminster, with great worship, and buried with her lord, king Edward. Worshipped, then meant, with our ancestors, nothing more than respected and honoured, and always had its degree of relation; and when we address our mayors and magistrates as your worship, and have our right worshipful companies, &c.; so, far from supposing them objects of adoration, we deem them at present treated with but an inferior degree of respect, and such that might reasonably offend, if bestowed on the lower rank of our nobility."

Plympton, Devon.

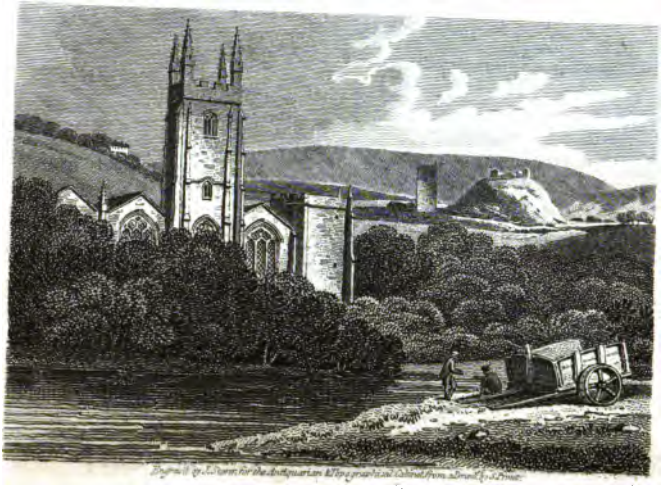
PLYMPTON, OR PLYMPTON EARLS,

DEVON.

PLYMPTON is situated in a beautiful vale, about a mile from the river Plym, on the south-east side. It is a market-town, and was formerly part of the honour of Plympton, to which eighty-nine knights' fees were annexed. This honour was granted by Henry I. to Richard de Rivers, afterwards earl of Devon, who made it the capital of his barony. His chief residence was the castle, which stood on the north side of the town, and included a space of nearly two acres: it was surrounded by a high rampart and a ditch of great depth; these are still remaining, together with an artificial mount seventy feet high and 200 in circumference; some fragments of walls are yet standing upon its summit, which are of great thickness. There are few other vestiges of this once formidable fortress; and it may almost be said of it, that there is extant

"——— no honorable note,
No chronicle of all its warlike pride,
To testify what once it was, how great,
How glorious, and how fear'd."

The family of Rivers invested the town of Plympton with many considerable privileges; its charter of incorporation, according to Dr. Brady, was granted by Baldwin de Rivers, and afterwards confirmed by Edward III. Richard II. and other succeeding monarchs. The corporation consists of a mayor, recorder, and eight principal burgesses. The first return to parliament was made in the reign of Edward I. The town consists of two principal streets; the number of houses is little more than 200. The parish church is a very lofty and handsome structure, built entirely of hewn moor-stone; it has a fine porch on the south and three large aisles, and two smaller ones on each of its sides; the tower is square and nearly 130 feet in height. This church is esteemed one of the most spacious in the county; it is appendant to that at Plympton St. Mary, which will be hereafter noticed. Near the church is a free-school, erected in the year 1664 by one of the executors of Elizeus Hele, esq. of Fardel, who bequeathed £1500 *per annum* to be expended in charitable uses. This school was the first essay in the art of drawing of the great sir Joshua Reynolds, who has rendered Plympton interesting in the annals of literature, as being the place of his nativity. He was born on the 16th of July, 1723, and was for some time instructed in the classics by his father; but at an early age his inclination for that art, of which he afterwards became so celebrated a professor, began to display itself, and his imperfect attempts at



Plympton from Plympton St. Mary, Devon.

Published for the Proprietors by W. Poole, New Bond St. & Th. Cadell, Strand, Oct. 1st 1800.

The Free School Plympton Devon.

delineation were encouraged by his father, who was himself fond of drawings, and had a small collection of anatomical and other prints. The young artist's first essays were made in copying several little things done by two of his elder sisters, who had likewise a turn for the art; and he afterwards copied such prints as he met with among his father's books, particularly those which were given in the translation of Plutarch's Lives, published by Dryden. But his principal fund of imitation was Jacob Cat's book of Emblems, which his great grandmother by the father's side, a Dutch woman, had brought with her from Holland. When he was but eight years old, he read with great avidity and pleasure *The Jesuit's Perspective*, a book which happened to lie on the window-seat of his father's parlour; and made himself so completely a master of it, that (from the information given to one of his particular friends) he never afterwards had occasion to study any other treatise on that subject. He then attempted to draw the school at Plympton, a building elevated on stone pillars; and he did it so well, that his father said, "Now this exemplifies what the author of the 'Perspective' asserts in his preface—that, by observing the rules laid down in his book, a man may do wonders; for this is wonderful."

When not much above seventeen years of age his father placed him under Hudson, the most distinguished artist of that time.

In 1749 he was carried by captain (afterwards lord)

Keppel to Italy, where he stayed three years, but of the course of his studies while he remained there little can now be known. On his return from Italy he hired a large house in Newport Street; and the first specimen he gave of his abilities is said to have been a boy's head in a turban, richly painted in the style of Rembrandt, which so attracted Hudson's attention, that he called every day to see it in its progress; and perceiving at last no trace of his own manner left, he exclaimed, "By G—d, Reynolds, you don't paint so well as when you left England."—A whole-length portrait of his friend and patron admiral Keppel, exhibited such powers, that he was at once considered to be at the head of his profession. Little remains to be added, but that he was one whom the most rare and enviable prosperity could not spoil, his whole life to the time of the failure of his sight, being passed in the diligent and unwearied pursuit of his art, at once his business and his pleasure, uninterrupted by sickness or misfortune. The hours necessary for relaxation were chiefly spent in the company of his numerous friends and acquaintance: and at his table, for above thirty years, were occasionally assembled all the taste, talents, and genius of the three kingdoms; men who were remarkable for their attainments in literature or the arts, for their exertions in the pulpit or at the bar, in the senate or the field. As an author, a character in which he appears scarcely less eminent than in that of a painter, we probably owe his exertions to his situation in the Royal

Academy of Arts, in the institution of which, in the year 1769, he had a principal share; and, being unquestionably of the first rank in his profession, he was unanimously elected the president.

He died after a confinement of near three months, at at his house in Leicester Fields, on Thursday evening, Feb. 23, 1792.

Plympton St. Mary, at a short distance from Earls Plympton, is the most extensive parish of any in the county of Devon, being near six miles long from south-west to north-east, and more than five from south-east to north-west. It is bounded on the south by part of Plymstock and Brixton, on the east by part of Brixton and Ermington, on the north by part of Cornwood, and on the west by part of Shaugh, Bickleigh, and Eggbuckland. The north side of this parish is very highly situated, and affords very grand views of the sea, and other interesting objects. Leland says,

"Plymptoun Marie is so caullid bycause the Chirch there is dedicate onto Our Lady. The glory of this towne stoode by the priorie of blake chanons, there buildid and richely endowid with landes.

"The original beginning of this priorie was after this fascion: one William Warwist, bisshop of Excester, displeasid with the chanons or prebendaries of a fre chapelle of the fundation of the Saxon kinges, because they wold not leve theyr concubines, found meanes to dis-

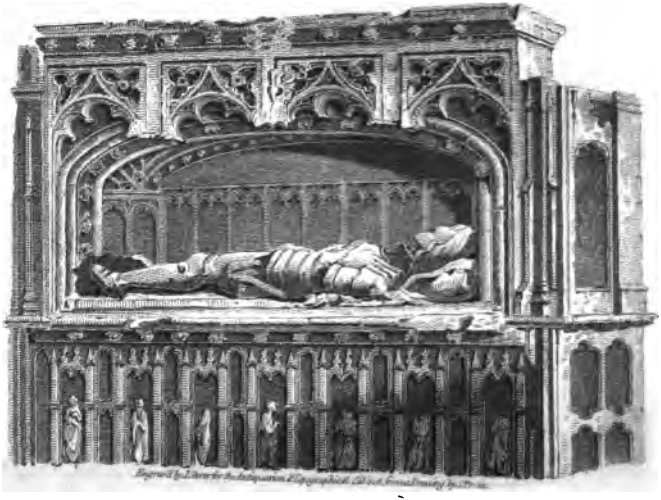
solve their college, wherin was a deane or provost, and four prebendaries, with other ministers.

"The prebende of Plympton self was the title of one, and the prebend of S. Peter and Paule at Sultown, now caullid Plymmouth, another. Bisshop Warwist, to recompence the prebendaries of Plymton, erectid a college of as many as wer ther at Bosenham in Southsax, and annexid the gift of them to his successors, bisshops of Excester. Then he set up at Plympton a priorie of canons regular, and after was ther buried in the chapitre house.

"Diverse noble men gave after landes to this priorie, emong whom was Walterus de Valle torta, lord of Tremerton, in Cornewal, and, as sum say, of Totenes, but yet I know no certentie of that. I know that he was a man of fair possessions about Plymmouth, and that he gave onto Plymtown priorie the isle of S. Nicolas cum cuniculis, conteyning a two acres of ground, or more, and lying at the mouthes of Tamar and Plym ryvers.

"There were buryed sum of Courteneis and diverse other gentilmen in the chirch of the priorie of Plymtoun.

"Plymtown Mary stondith not upon Plym river: for it is distant almost halfa mile from it. But it stondith on Torey brooke by the est rissen of it, wherby the lower and first buildinges of the court of the priorie be almost clene chokid with the sandes that Torey bringgith from the tynne workes."



Tomb in Ampton St. Mary's Church, Devon

[illegible]

That the priory of Plympton St. Mary was demolished soon after the reformation, seems evident from Leland's saying "the church that there a late stood." The revenues of this monastery, says Browne Willis, which was dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul, were valued, at the dissolution, at £12:12:8 *per annum*. And here too were impropriated the tithes of this parish, which now belong to the dean and chapter of Windsor, by gift of Edward VI. who, in the first year of his reign, granted to that college the rectory and church of Plympton, with the chapels of Plymstoke and Plympton St. Maurice, late parcel of the lands of this dissolved priory.

In the south aisle of the church near the east end is an ancient tomb without an incription; tradition however reports that it was intended to commemorate one of the family of Stroude, that have long had their residence in this neighbourhood.

The ancient manor-house is in great part standing, and at present tenanted by a farmer; many of the rooms are kept in repair, and display in their vast carved chimney pieces, the magnificent taste of former ages. A handsome mansion has lately been erected on the estate, to which the family have removed; this is known by the name of New Newnham, to distinguish it from the ancient Newnham house.

In the churchyard are some remains of the priory of Plympton St. Mary worthy of notice; among them, on what was the north side of the building, is a small door

of beautiful workmanship, having on each side a twisted column; and on the south side in a garden, nearly enveloped with foliage, is a round-headed door, having a broad band of chevron work, and resting on two slender columns, with ornamented capitals, as seen in the Title to Vol. VI. Besides these the churchyard is strewed with fragments of clustered columns, rich capitals, embattlements, and various other pieces of sculpture, which give no inadequate idea of the original splendour of the building.

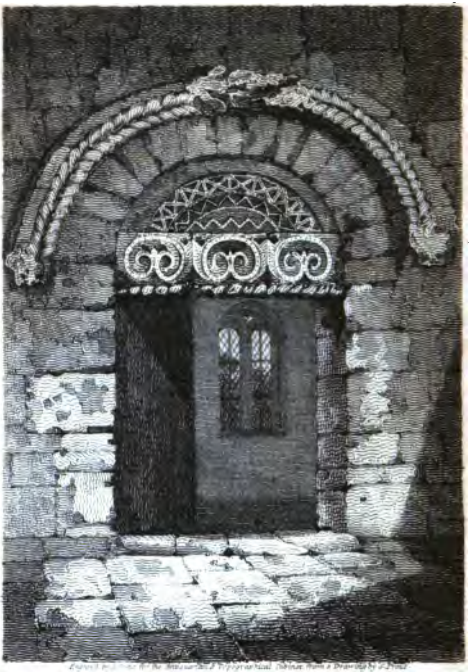
> "But where is now the venerable pile?
> Where all his skill the architect display'd?
> Alas! in wrecks it lies."

ANTIQUARIAN and TOPOGRAPHICAL Cabinet.

VOL. VI.

Remains of the Priory, Plympton St. Mary's Devon.

Published for the Proprietors by W. Clarke, New Bond Street & J. Harper, Old Bond St. 1st July 1809.



N. Peck. East Teignmouth Church, Devon.

[illegible] the Proprietor [illegible] Bond St. Carpenter [illegible] Strand [illegible]

[illegible]

TEIGNMOUTH,

DEVONSHIRE.

TEIGNMOUTH is situated on the mouth of the Teign, on a very gentle declivity, and is sheltered on the east and north east by a chain of hills, near the foot of which it stands. This town is divided into two parts by a small rivulet; that on the west side being called West Teignmouth, and that on the east side East Teignmouth. The church of East Teignmouth is an edifice of great antiquity: the date of its erection is unknown; but the style of architecture in its most ancient parts carries it back into the early periods of Christianity, and with great probability it may be referred to the Normans. This church stands on the beach, and is protected from the washings of the tide by a wall, against which the sea beats. The scenery near the church is singularly picturesque; a fine range of shore trends to the east and west at least two miles. The perforated Rock, and another called the Clerk, are conspicuous on the one point; and on the other, almost under the promontory, called the Ness, is the pleasing hamlet of Shaldon, which of late years has become a favourite summer residence for many families who visit Teignmouth as a watering place. East Teignmouth church has a round tower connected

with a square one; the windows are narrow with semi-circular arches; and the corbels, consisting of heads of men or animals, are, with its northern porch, strong indications of a Norman origin. This porch, of which a Plate is given, has an ornamented arched entrance, the outer circle of which is a double band of twisted foliage springing from grotesque heads; beneath this circle is another arch of plain stones, the internal part of which is ornamented in basso-relievo with trellis-work and zig-zag; and under this are stones richly embossed with volutes, which extend across the door-way.

This church presents no other objects worthy of notice except the stone font, the basin of which is octagonal, supported by a pillar of the same form. The exterior is sculptured on each of its sides with quatrefoils, within which are either roses or heads, and below a double band flows large leaves entwining the basin with peculiar elegance. The supporting pillar is enriched with recesses.

Teignmouth is recorded to have been burnt in the tenth century by the Danes, who having landed here and defeated the king's lieutenant, ravaged the country to a considerable extent. It was also nearly consumed in the reign of queen Anne, when the French landed and set fire to it, and one of the new streets, erected with the money procured by brief for the relief of the distressed inhabitants, was named French Street, as a memorial of that calamity. What a grateful contrast now presents

Stone Font. East Teignmouth Co. Devon.

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[illegible]

itself! instead of receiving the insults of a hostile fleet upon our coasts, our mariners have "deep impress'd on haughty Gaul the terror of their arms;" and the shattered navies of our foes hide their diminished sails in their inmost harbours, while Britain stands,

"The dread of tyrants, and the sole resource
Of those that under grim Oppression groan,
* * * * * * *
At once the wonder, terror, and delight
Of distant nations."

Since the time above mentioned Teignmouth has become of some consequence, and is now esteemed one of the most fashionable watering places on the western coast. The principal resort of company is East Teignmouth, where the public rooms and theatre are situated.

On an extensive flat called the Dan is a small fort, erected for the defence of the town. The view from hence up the river is extremely beautiful, the ground gradually rising on each side into verdant hills, ornamented with wood and cheerful with cultivation.

The trade of Teignmouth consists principally in the exportation of clay and the importation of coals, and is carried on chiefly in craft built at this place, where are conveniences for launching vessels of 100 tons. The clay exported is brought from Bovey, and the greater propor-

tion of it by the canal. West Teignmouth had formerly a chartered market held on a Sunday, but this has for a great length of time been discontinued. The market is now held on Saturdays.

Remains of the Keep of Oakhampton Castle.

OAKHAMPTON CASTLE,

DEVONSHIRE.

About a mile from the town of Oakhampton, and neat the centre of the county of Devon, are situated the remains of this once extensive and important fortress: its elevation, being built upon a high rock, gives it the command of a country delightfully varied, watered by the meanderings of the river Oak, from which the town takes its name. Seen from the valley, these vestiges of baronial grandeur assume a most majestic appearance; the river, in its devious course, laves the foundation of the walls; the acclivities on which the ruins stand rise with abrupt dignity steep above steep; and among the "mouldering turrets and ivy-clad walls," the keep is elevated with proud pre-eminence. This place was, a few years since, one of the most beautiful scenes which the country could boast; but much of its interest is now lost: the surrounding hills have been disrobed of their hanging woods, and present a picture of comparative desolation, having no covering but fern and masses of furze; the Castle is negligently suffered to totter into ruin, crumbling and losing its consequence every year. The chapel, of which we have given a View, is the most perfect part of the building that remains.

Engraved by J. Hore for the Antiquarian Topographical Cabinet from a Drawing by J. Prout.

Chapel of Oakhampton Castle, Devonshire.

[illegible]

deeply dyed with blood, nearly 37,000 being slain in this memorable battle. The victorious Edward gave the greater part of the earl of Devon's possessions to Humphrey Stafford, knt. who shortly after experienced the fate of his predecessor. In the same year, which was the ninth of Edward IV. the manor of Oakhampton was granted to sir John Dynham, who enjoyed it but two years: it was then given to George duke of Clarence, on whose attainture and death it reverted to the crown, and continued to be a royal fortress till the reign of Henry VII.: that monarch restored the barony of Oakhampton to the family of the Courtenays, and with it all their ancient honours and estates. Henry VIII. having discovered a correspondence between Henry de Courtenay and cardinal Pole, demolished this Castle, devastated the park, and deprived the unfortunate nobleman of his life. He likewise imprisoned Edward, his son and heir, who continued in confinement till released by queen Mary; he was then reinstated in the rank and fortune of his ancestors: having no male issue, the estate was carried by marriage into the family of the Mohuns, barons of Mohun and Oakhampton, whose male line likewise becoming extinct by the death of lord Mohun (who was killed by the duke of Hamilton in a duel in 1712), the estate descended to Christopher Harris, esq. of Heynes, he having married the heiress of that family. This gentleman was the representative of the borough of Oakhampton in parliament in the twelfth year of queen Anne.

Oakhampton was a borough previous to the Conquest, though first incorporated in the reign of James I. Its government is vested in eight principal burgesses, from whom the mayor is chosen annually. The earliest return to parliament from this borough was made in the twenty-eighth year of Edward I.; another was made in the seventh of Edward II.: no member was afterwards sent till the year 1640, when the privilege was restored, since which the returns have been regular: the right of voting is in the freeholders and freemen, whose number is about 182.

The inhabitants derive their chief support from the manufacture of serges, and the expenditure of travellers, which is very considerable, the turnpike-road from Exeter to Launceston and Falmouth passing through the town. The population of this parish, according to the report made under the late act, amounted to 1430; the number of houses was 269.

Remains of Tavistock Abbey, Devon.

TAVISTOCK ABBEY,

DEVONSHIRE.

TAVISTOCK stands on the banks of the Tavy, which river, with the addition of the Saxon word *stock*, signifying a place, gives origin to its name. Before the year 961 this place was the manor and chief residence of Orgar, duke of Devonshire, who, in the days of king Edgar, kept here a princely household. This duke had a daughter named Elfrida, remarkable for the beauty of her person; as this circumstance was the means of allying the family of Orgar to the royal blood, and probably gave an occasion for the foundation of this Abbey, historians have given a minute account of some previous transactions relative to this event. The king, on the general report of Elfrida's fame, dispatched his confidant and favourite, earl Ethelwold, to see the lady, that he might make no advances himself till he was assured of the perfection of her beauty. Ethelwold being arrived at the duke's, no sooner cast his eyes upon the lovely Elfrida, but he became desperately enamoured of her. His passion was so violent, that he became deaf to the dictates of reason; and disregarding his own personal safety, he ventured to demand her for himself. Having obtained the consent of her father, he married her in the

most private manner, persuading the duke, that he had such reasons for concealing the marriage as he could not with propriety divulge. Returning shortly after to court, he informed the king that he had been imposed upon by the current report, and was surprised the world should think so much of Elfrida's charms; for, to all appearance, the fame of her beauty proceeded more from her father's riches than any thing else. This account, which was calculated to damp the ardour of Edgar's passion, had the desired effect, and he laid aside all thoughts of his intended marriage. The crafty Ethelwold, observing that his master was grown perfectly indifferent to the continued praises of Elfrida's beauty, represented to him, at a well-chosen opportunity, that though the fortune of the duke of Devonshire's daughter was not worth the consideration of a king, yet it would be the making of any subject; and therefore humbly entreated that he might be permitted to make his addresses to her: Edgar willingly and unsuspectingly granted his request. The earl immediately returned to his wife, and publicly solemnized their nuptials; but jealous lest the king should be charmed with her appearance, he sequestered her at his country seat, without permitting her to be seen at court. However cautious Ethelwold had been in this affair, Edgar was informed of the whole truth; but not willing to gratify a hasty resentment before he was convinced that he had been deceived, he dissembled for the present; and taking an occasion to visit that part of the country which the earl

Remains of Tavistock Abbey, Devon.

[illegible]

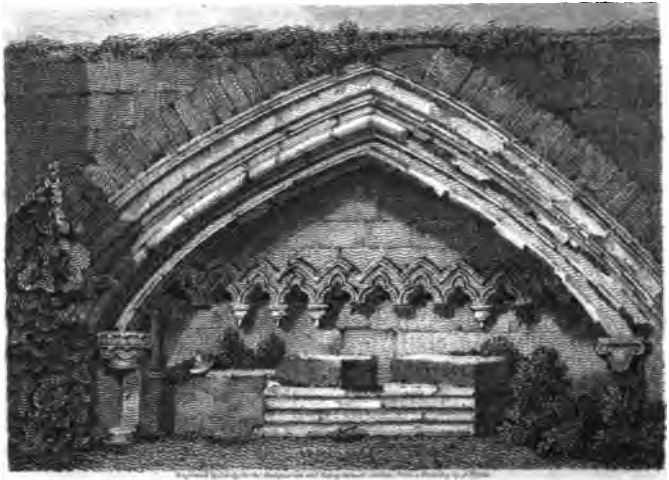
[illegible] Accordingly we [illegible] was conceived [illegible] magnifice[illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] and [illegible]

had chosen for the retirement of his wife, he told him that he had an inclination to see his lady. The earl was confounded at the king's resolution, and endeavoured to divert him from his purpose, but without success; he was, however, indulged with permission to precede the king, under pretence of preparing for his reception. He now hastened to his house, and throwing himself at Elfrida's feet, acknowledged what he had done to obtain her, and conjured her to make every endeavour to conceal her charms from the king; she promised to conform to his wishes, but instead of so doing, was employed, during his absence to meet the king, in adorning herself to the greatest advantage. The moment Edgar cast his eyes upon her, he determined to make her his own, and ordered Ethelwold to go for Northumberland on some pretended urgent business; but the unfortunate earl did not perform his journey; he was found dead in a wood. It was at first supposed that he was murdered by robbers; but on Edgar's raising Elfrida to the throne, without an inquiry after the murderer of her husband, the people were undeceived.

The father of Elfrida, grieved at the disorders which had taken place in his family, was, after the manner of those days, admonished by a vision to found a monastery for the peace and solace of his mind. Accordingly he began the erection of an abbey here, which was completed by his son Ordulph, in a style of great magnificence, about the year 981. Ordulph and his lady endowed the

Abbey with the manor of Tavistock and several others; these donations were increased by king Etheired, who granted to the monks many privileges. However, it flourished not long under the fostering influence of its benefactors; for within thirty years from its foundation it was destroyed by the Danes, who sailed up the Tavy, and landed near its walls. A short time afterwards it was rebuilt, and received, in addition to its former possessions, the munificent benefactions of many pious persons. Henry I. granted "the jurisdiction and the whole hundred of Tavistock" to the Abbey, with the privilege of a market, and a fair of three day's continuance. As the riches of this establishment were augmented, the pride of its abbots increased, till at length an application was made to Henry VIII. by Richard Barham, the thirty-fifth abbot, for the honour of a mitre, which included the privileges of a peerage. The patent, by which this dignity was conveyed, is dated the 23d of January, 1513: this eminence was of short duration; for in 1539, John Beryn, the last abbot, surrendered this monastery, and was allowed a yearly stipend of £100 for life; at this time its revenues were valued at £902:3:7¾ annual produce. In the same year it was given, with all its possessions, including the borough and town of Tavistock, to John, lord Russell; and since the family have attained the ducal rank, they have the title of marquis from this place. The present duke of Bedford is now the proprietor.

Many detached fragments of the original building



Ordulph's Tomb, Tavistock Abbey Devon.

still remain, but they are mostly incorporated in others of a more recent date. Leland describes the abbey church to be 126 yards in length, and the cloisters of the same extent; these have been long demolished. The materials which composed the chapter-house, a most magnificent structure, were removed many years since, and used for the erection of a dwelling-house for the duke of Bedford's steward. Other parts of the buildings have been converted into warehouses and other inferior purposes. A large arched gateway, attached to the principal inn of the town, is still standing. This is a handsome relic, adorned with lofty pinnacles, and from its workmanship appears to have been erected in the time of Henry VI. Among the ruins of the Abbey a monument was discovered, supposed to be the tomb of Ordulph before mentioned. By referring to the plate two stones may be seen lying under the arch upon a fragment of the ruin; these were dug up near the tomb, and placed in their present situation by the proprietor of the premises. They are of a slaty quality, and have an inscription, which, for the most part, is obliterated—the only legible words are,

"SUB JACET INTUS
CONDITER."

Near this tomb was also found a sarcophagus of considerable dimensions, and in it the bones of Ordulph of a most gigantic size; he is reported to have been of such immense strength and stature, that he could break the bars of

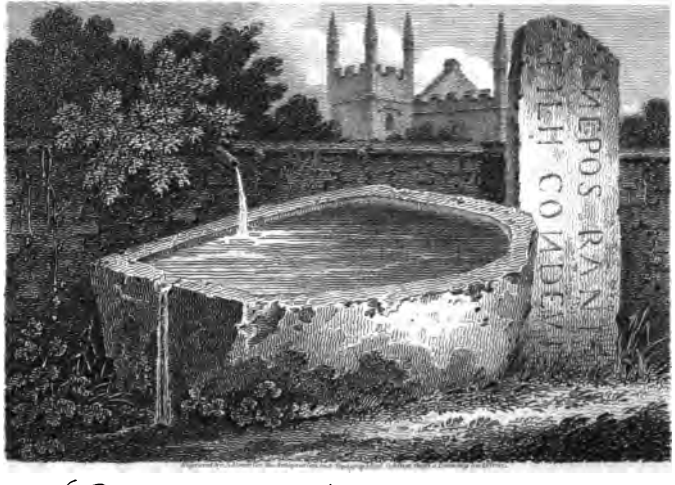
gates, and stride over rivers ten feet wide. These bones are still preserved in the church. The erect sepulchral stone, placed by the end of the coffin, stood formerly in the town, but has been brought within the Abbey gardens for safety; on it is an inscription, in rude characters,

"NEPOS RANI FILII CONDEVI."

Several of the abbots were of considerable reputation for learning, and made great advances in the promulgation of knowledge, as appears by the erection of a printing press in the Abbey shortly after the art was brought into England.

The origin of Tavistock is attributed to the foundation and establishment of the Abbey; it is now a large and populous town, though the situation is low, the streets narrow, and indifferently paved; many of the houses bear the appearance of considerable age. The church is spacious, consisting of four aisles, a chancel, and a tower at the west end. It contains several monuments worthy of notice. The river is here crossed by two bridges; during rainy seasons it displays a purturbed and interesting appearance, as its course is obstructed by a number of ledges and masses of rock.

As early as the reign of Edward I. Tavistock sent members to Parliament; the portreve is the returning officer, who is elected annually by twenty-four freeholders. The number of voters is about 110: according to the returns lately made the population of the parish



The Sarcophagus of Ordulph, Tavistock Devon?

amounted to 4390; the number of houses is 655. Serges are manufactured here for the East India Company, which gives employment to many of the inhabitants. Till about the time of the Reformation an institution existed here for the study of Saxon literature, and a building was appropriated to this purpose, called the Saxon school.

This town, and its vicinity, have given birth to many eminent characters; among the most illustrious is sir Francis Drake, the first Englishman who circumnavigated the globe. Queen Elizabeth was so well pleased with this exploit, that she paid him a visit on board his own ship, and ordered that the vessel, in which he had endured so many hardships, should be preserved as a monument of his own and the nation's glory. This celebrated ship, after lying at Deptford in a decaying state for many years, was at length broken up, and the university of Oxford presented with a chair manufactured from its planks. The poet, William Browne, was likewise born at Tavistock in the year 1590, and was a writer of considerable merit for his day; he published a work, in 1613, entitled Britannia's Pastorals, in which he has many lively allusions, descriptive of the scenery of this place.

In the church of Lamerton. near Tavistock, is a monument with the effigies of two brothers who were twins, and so much resembled each other in every particular, that they could not be distinguished by their nearest relatives; and what is still more remarkable,

their minds and affections were as one,—such was the sympathy of their natures, that if one was sick or grieved, the other felt the like sensations, though they were far distant in their persons, and no intelligence was given to either party, It was likewise remarked, that if one was merry the other was alike affected, though they were in different places; but they could not long endure to be separated, and were always desirous to eat, drink, sleep, and wake together; they died in 1564, serving at Newhaven, in France, where one being slain, the other immediately took his place, and participated in his fate.

Cromlech at Drew Steignton, Devonshire.

THE CROMLECH,

AT DREWSTEIGNTON,

DEVONSHIRE.

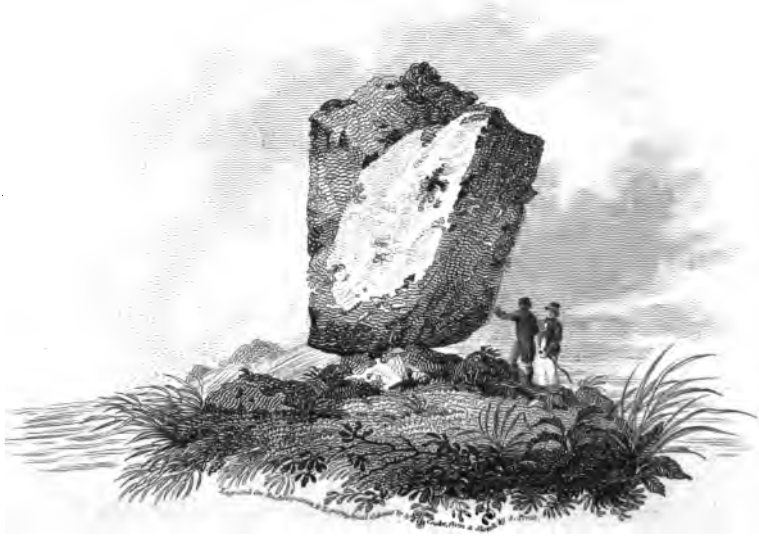
This curious remnant of antiquity is situated on a farm called Shelstone, in the parish of Drewsteignton, and is supposed to be the most perfect specimen of the kind in the kingdom.

The quoit, or covering-stone, has three supporters; it rests on the pointed tops of the southern and western ones; but that on the north side upholds it on its inner inclining surface somewhat below the top, its exterior sides rising several inches higher than the part on which the superincumbent stone is laid. This latter supporter is seven feet high; indeed, they are all of such an altitude, that a good-sized man may pass under with his hat on without difficulty; the height of the inclosed area being at least six feet. From the northern to the southern edge of the covering-stone is fourteen feet and a half, and from the east and west it is of similar length; for the angles or edges appear to present themselves almost exactly to the cardinal points. The width across is ten feet. The form of this stone is oblate, not gibbous, but rounding from the under face, rising from the north about thirteen inches higher than in the other parts; yet so plain on its super-

ficies, that a man may stand on it, or traverse it, without apprehension.

Borlase and others, who have treated the subject, consider this species of monument to have been sepulchral; and, as they are often found erected on barrows, which are undoubtedly sepulchral, the opposition appears to be well founded: certainly, there is much less evidence in favour of their opinion who contend that they were Druidical altars, and applied to sacrificial purposes. The word *Cromlech* is said to imply crooked (or, according to others, consecrated) stones: it is not unlikely, therefore, that they were *tumuli honorabiliores*, or the appropriated monuments of chief Druids, or of princes; a supposition which receives some countenance from the famous Cromlech in Kent, known by the name of Kit's Coity House, having covered the body of Catigern, a British prince, slain by the Saxons in battle at Aylesford, A. D. 455.

The Cromlech which we have thus described, is called in the neighbourhood *Spinster's Rock*.



Logan Stone near Drew Teignton Devonshire

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LOGAN, OR ROCKING STONE,

NEAR DREW STEIGNTON,

DEVONSHIRE,

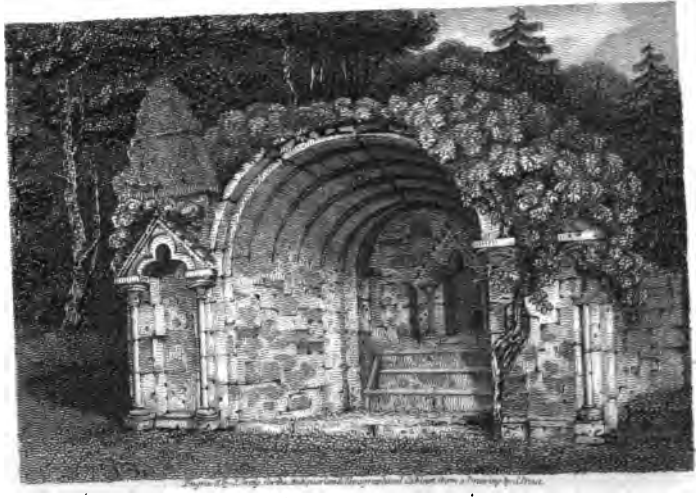
A MONUMENT of antiquity, is seated in the middle of the river Teign, which rolls over a rocky channel in this part of its course. "It is poised," says Polwhele, "upon another mass of stone which is deep grounded in the bed of the river. It is unequally sided, of great size; at some parts six, at others seven feet in height, and at the west end ten. From its west to east points, it may be in length about eighteen feet. It is flattish on the top, and seems to touch the stone below in no less than three or four places; but probably it is the gravel which the floods have left between that causes this appearance. I easily rocked it with one hand; but its quantity of motion did not exceed one inch, if so much. The equipoise, however, was more perceptible a few years since. Both the stones are granite; which is thick strewn in the channel of the river, and over all the adjacent country. It seems to have been the work of nature."

But the scenery of the surrounding neighbourhood claims particular attention, on account of its singular grandeur. The path leading from the river to the Logan Stone, winds in a beautiful manner beneath the precipice of Piddle Down. The majestic ascent of the hill is peculiarly striking; at its greatest distance is plainly to be

perceived a channel evidently formed by floods, which have driven down the soil into the river, and rendered that part which has been perforated barren and rocky.

The south side of the river is abruptly bounded in this part by a steep and lofty ridge of mountains, from the sides of which massive fragments of rocky substance are precipitated into the stream; the consequence is, that being pent up in deep and narrow currents, the rushing of the waters is heard in dreadful uproar for a considerable distance, in its course to Bovey Tracy.

——Raging still amid the shaggy rocks,
Now flashes o'er the scatter'd fragments, now
Aslant the hollow'd channel rapid darts;
And falling fast from gradual slope to slope,
With wild infracted course and lessen'd roar,
It gains a safer bed, and steals, at last,
Along the mazes of the quiet vale. THOMSON.



Ruins at Mount-Edgcumbe, Devon.

RUINS AT MOUNT EDGCUMBE,

DEVONSHIRE.

The subject of the accompanying Plate is a well-known object to every person who visits Mount Edgcumbe, the seat of the earl of Mount Edgcumbe. It stands on the terrace, and has been fitted up with seats as a resting-place. The fragments of antiquity by which it is formed were brought from the neighbouring town of Stonehouse by the late earl of Mount Edgcumbe, and, excepting some embattled walls, which are nearly covered with ivy, are the only remains of a small religious house, which is unnoticed by any county historian. The arch, which is nearly semicircular, recedes, and has on each side remains of a niche, having very slender and beautiful pillars; this arch is supposed to have been the entrance to a chapel; within it, forming the back of the resting-place, is an elegant piscina. From the spot where these interesting remains are placed, a wide green slope descends for a quarter of a mile to the rocky shores of Cawsand Bay; the woods on each side exclude many prospects of the head-lands, and confine the view entirely to the ocean.

The beautiful peninsula of Mount Edgcumbe, which is approached by crossing the water at the place called

Cremill Ferry, possesses many rich and pleasing scenes, and presents from the high grounds a singular variety of interesting and grand prospects. The house is situated on the side of a wooded hill; from the windows of its northern and eastern fronts it commands extensive and variegated prospects of the Hamoaze with its shipping, the river Tamar, Plymouth Sound with the island of St. Nicholas, the town of Plymouth with its citadel, Stonehouse, Plymouth Dock, and the dockyard; and of all the surrounding country, bounded by elevated hills, of which the most prominent are Hengist Down, Brent Tor, and other Tors on Dartmoor.

Dartington Manor House Devon

DARTINGTON MANOR HOUSE,

DEVONSHIRE.

THIS building, which is of considerable antiquity, is the residence of Arthur Champernoune, esq. and is reported by Mr. Buck, on traditionary evidence, to have been inhabited by a community of Knights Templars; but neither Camden, Dugdale, or Tanner, make any allusion to such a circumstance. The dwelling-house and other apartments now used, it is very probable, were the offices to a more superb structure, of which the principal portion still perfect is the great hall. From the remains of walls, &c. it appears evident that the original building composed a double quadrangle, the two courts being connected by the hall, kitchen, buttery, &c.; behind these, to the left, is a large area, surrounded by thick walls, and on one side (that directly opposite to the hall) are the remains of a long range of building, supported by an arched front. The foundations of various walls were also discovered in digging up the area. Of the outer quadrangle, or that supposed to have been formerly the offices, three sides are nearly perfect, the central of which is now used as the dwelling-house. On the left is the great hall and kitchen, the latter thirty-five feet square, having walls of immense thickness: the roof is destroyed. The hall is a magni-

ficent apartment, seventy feet long and forty wide; the roof is of oak, curiously framed; the windows are large and pointed: the outside is embattled and strengthened by buttresses. The entrance porch and tower, also embattled, is forty feet high. The dwelling-house is 250 feet long, and was formerly divided into various distinct tenements, each room having only one door, and that opening immediately into the air; but the original building has been in this part much altered.

This estate was granted by the Conqueror to William de Falaise; afterwards it became the property of the Martins, lords Kiemes, from whom, in the reign of Edward II. it passed in marriage to William lord Audelegh. On the extinction of this family in the reign of Richard II. the manor escheated to the crown, and was given by that monarch to his half brother John lord Holland earl of Huntingdon and duke of Exeter. It again reverted to the crown, and was afterwards purchased by —— Ailworth, of London, who exchanged it for some lands near Exeter with sir Arthur Champernoune, from whom the present possessor inherits it in right of his mother.

Sandford Castle, Dorsetshire.

SANDFORD CASTLE,

DORSETSHIRE.

SANDFORD, or Sandisfoot Castle, is situated about one mile from the town of Weymouth. This fortress was erected by Henry VIII. for the purpose of defending the town from the invasion which he apprehended would be attempted in consequence of his disagreement with the papal see. Its form, according to Leland, was a parallelogram, its greatest length being from north to south. The walls are mostly cased with squared Portland stone, the inner part being filled up with rubbish and mortar. The north part appears to have been the residence of the governor. Before the south front, which is semicircular, there was formerly a platform for cannon. At the south end is a building, lower, but broader than the Castle, and serving to flank its east and west sides, which had each embrasures for great guns, and beneath them two tier of loopholes for small arms, the lowest almost even with the level of the ground; the whole is surrounded with a deep trench, except on the south: the walls are uncommonly strong, being in some parts seven yards in thickness.

The town of Weymouth derives its name from the river Wey, near which it stands; it has of late become a fashionable resort, since which great improvements and

additions have been made. Here is a set of elegant assembly rooms, an hotel, and other necessary appendages. Almost every spot of land which fronts the sands has been engaged for the purpose of erecting lodging-houses, the views from which are exceedingly pleasant: most of the buildings are so situated as to command interesting prospects; the houses fronting the bay possess superior advantages, as they are in the immediate vicinity of the theatre, public rooms, and libraries.

The bay forms nearly a semicircle, making a sweep of more than two miles, and is admirably protected from the winds by surrounding hills.

Engraved by Elmes from the Antiquarian Topographical Cabinet from a drawing by J. Dixon

Inscribed Stone in Yealmpton Church Yard, Devon.

Published for the Proprietors by W. Clarke, New Bond Street, & E. Harper, 38 Holborn Hill, Oct. 1807.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] which has [illegible] several [illegible] is [illegible] by Mr. [illegible] are ascribed to [illegible] stories, or the [illegible] The stone grows [illegible] is left in a [illegible] the lower extremity, as if [illegible] and the ground: [illegible] in it this [illegible] this [illegible] that [illegible] too [illegible] that [illegible] two [illegible] the person referred; [illegible] so seldom [illegible] their expir[illegible]

INSCRIBED STONE, YEALMPTON,

DEVONSHIRE.

The Yealmpton Stone, which has been noticed by several antiquaries, is supposed by Mr. Polwhele, the historian of Devonshire, to be inscribed to the memory of a christianized Roman, of the name of Torens, who was here interred. This Stone grows gradually less towards the upper part, and is left in a very rough state for near a foot at the lower extremity, as if it had been intended for insertion into the ground; its length is nine feet, varying considerably in its thickness; it lies east and west. Mr. Polwhele compares this Stone with one at St. Clement's, and concludes from their inscriptions that they commemorate father and son; there is certainly a most singular resemblance between them. He observes, that, "If at full length, the words" on the St. Clement's Stone, "would be these, ISNIOCVS VITALIS FILIVS TORRICI; there is not the least deviation from the Roman capitals, except that the under dexter stroke of the R in TORRICI is too short and too horizontal. There is another very good argument for the great antiquity of this inscription, which is, that here are two names of the person interred; a thing so common among the Romans, and so seldom met with during their empire

in the monuments of other nations, that where the character concurs it may be looked upon as a decisive criterion of a Roman inscription: but this is still more confirmed by the word VITALIS, which is actually a Roman name; so that ISNIOC, the prenomen, is British, and VITALIS, the cognomen, is Roman. In my apprehension, these pillars, considered at one view, bring light out of darkness; in collision they emit sparks that enlighten the whole region around them. The Yealmpton Stone is inscribed to the memory of TOREVS; and Torens was, as I plainly think, a Roman. What indeed is more probable than that TOREVS was the same person as TORRICVS? VITALIS, then the son of TORRICVS or TOREVS, was buried at St. Clement's, where a Christian church had been formed out of a pagan temple, or erected on the site of it; and TOREVS, the father of VITALIS, was buried at Yealmpton, near a church of a similar description."

Cop Stone Stone Devon.

Published for the Proprietors by W. Clarke New Bond Street & J. Carpenter Old Bond St. Feb. 1 1808.

COP-STONE STONE,

DEVONSHIRE.

Cop-stone Stone, or Copplestone Stone, stands on a plot of ground, where three parishes concentrate—Colebrook, Crediton, and Down St. Mary: it is about five miles from Crediton and three from Bow. This pillar is a block of granite eleven feet in height from the surface of the ground; its width is a square of nineteen inches, diminishing as it ascends. Two or three feet from the ground the basement is rude and broken; above this the pillar is divided into horizontal compartments, containing diamond-work, crosses, flowers, and other ornamental sculpture; near the top, which is broken and decayed, is a deep oblong niche. On what account this Stone was erected is uncertain; from its situation it was probably intended for a parochial boundary, or it might be the land mark of the family of Copplestone, which enjoyed considerable possessions in this neighbourhood. This family removed about a century since to Warleigh, in the parish of Farnerton Foliot, in the same county: some account of them may be found in Prince's Worthies of Devon. The parish churches before mentioned contain no monuments of particular distinction to commemorate this name.

Tradition supplies us with a vindictive tale, which, if true, reflects no honour on the individual of this family whom it concerns. It is stated, that a youth, refusing a match commanded by his father, married in opposition to his will, which so irritated the parent that he made a vow to assassinate him: the son withdrew himself for the space of two years; but being weary of concealment, resolved to seek an interview with his father in the church. The parent suppressed his violence while within the sacred walls; but they had no sooner quitted the church than he stabbed his son to the heart.

Engraved by J. Storer for the Antiquarian & Topographical Cabinet from a Drawing by S. Prout.

S.E. View of Bishops Teignton Church, Devon

South door of Bishop's Teignton Church, Devon.

Published for the Proprietors by W. Clarke, New Bond St. & J. Carpenter, Old Bond St. June 1, 1806.

BISHOP'S TEIGNTON CHURCH,

DEVONSHIRE.

THE small village of Bishop's Teignton is pleasantly situated on a gentle ascent from the river Teign, and consists of a few mud-walled cottages, and some fragments of a palace formerly belonging to the bishops of Exeter. The Church originally consisted of an aisle and chancel, divided by a tower, with a projecting circular staircase. A north aisle has since been added, the interior of which consists of six clustered columns with ornamented capitals, from which spring arches of an elliptical curve; the pillars which support the tower are square and of considerable thickness, bearing pointed arches enriched with the zig-zag moulding: the church is in length about seventy-feet, and in width thirty-six feet. The western entrance claims pre-eminent notice, as being a semi-circular and highly-ornamented doorway of Norman architecture, perhaps the most perfect of the kind that remains in this county. The arch, which recedes, is supported on each side by two pillars with carved capitals, their bases are covered with earth; the shafts of the two interior pillars are sculptured with the zig-zag ornament; the exterior moulding of the arch is indented with diamond-work, immediately within which is a broad band of zigzag: the next

circle of ornament appears to have been roses, and the interior circle is enriched with non-descript heads; the extreme height of the outer arch is fifteen feet, width twelve feet. The door within the porch on the south side of the Church has also a circular arch but much smaller, and its only ornaments are figures kneeling under a band of rib-work. The font belonging to this Church is very ancient, of uncouth shape, and sculptured with roses, foliage, and rib-work.

Bishop's Teignton, at the time of the Norman survey, was partly held by the crown and partly by the bishops of Exeter. The present possessor of the manor is the rev. Mr. Comyns, of Wood.

This parish has been remarked on account of the many roads which intersect it, and which extend to the distance of between forty and fifty miles, though the breadth of the parish is not more than three miles and a half, nor its length above four and a quarter.

W.t Door of Repton Church, Derbyshire.

Published by the Proprietors, W. Clarke, Bridge St. & Cornelius Clarke, Duke St. Westminster

PAIGNTON CHURCH,

DEVONSHIRE.

PAIGNTON is situated about a mile from Torbay, rather elevated, commanding most delightful prospects over a country richly diversified, and towards the sea at Torbay gently declining to the water's edge.

How beautiful, how various is the view
Of these sweet pastoral landscapes! fair, perhaps,
As those renowned of old, from Tabor's height
Or Carmel seen; or those, the pride of Greece,
Tempe or Arcadia; or those that graced
The banks of clear Elorus or the skirts
Of thymy Hybla, where Sicilia's isle
Smiles on the azure main SCOTT.

Paignton is a town of considerable extent, clean and comfortable in its appearance, has many very respectable houses, but is principally noticed for the remains of the episcopal palace, and its church, which is a large structure, consisting of three aisles and two small chapels or transcepts. The entrance under the tower is in excellent preservation, and of Norman architecture; the arch is semicircular, supported on each side by two pillars

with capitals highly enriched with sculpture. The arch springing from the front pillars, has an external band ornamented with beads, within which is some most beautifully carved diamond and trellis work; the arch springing from the receding pillars is ornamented with the zigzag deeply indented.

Within the south chapel, or transcept, are the remains of a large monument of elaborate workmanship; and in the north aisle a figure recumbent, traditionally called JOB, perhaps from its leanness, being represented in an emaciated state, with a dejected countenance: the workmanship of the figure is exceedingly good, correctly delineating an object starved to death.

In the churchyard is a plain stone cross, supposed to be erected for devotional purposes.

Engraved by J. Storer for the Antiquarian & Topographical Cabinet from a drawing by J. Swan

Remains of the Palace, Bishops Clyst, Devonshire.

EPISCOPAL PALACES,

DEVONSHIRE.

THE following interesting communication relative to the Episcopal Palaces in Devonshire, was addressed to the Editors by the rev. J. Swete, prebendary of Exeter.

"Oxton House, near Exeter, Feb. 16, 1808.

"SIRS,

"In the county of Devon, so extensive and fertile as it is, and from its retired dells and picturesque vallies so admirably adapted to religious seclusion, it must appear somewhat strange to antiquarian research, that there have been found so few monastic structures.

"Of those which Dugdale has recorded there are scarcely any remains; and if Ford Abbey and that of Tavystoke be excepted, the ruins which are yet visible are unimportant in their appearance, and rarely interesting enough for picturesque or architectural delineation. On this account they have been invariably omitted by the host of tourists who have investigated the beauties of the county, and been altogether overlooked by the graphical antiquary.

"Connected in some degree with such religious institutions are the parochial churches, and the concomitant

buildings appropriated to their respective ecclesiastical incumbents. Of the former, the cathedral at Exeter stands unrivalled in size, magnificence, and antiquity; for it may be doubted, whether of the very few fabrics which retain vestiges of the Norman style (the Saxon I believe to be wholly out of the question), any of them shall be found to precede those towers of the cathedral which were erected by William Warlewast, bishop of Exeter, in the reign of Henry I.

"Of the latter, there are none perhaps of an earlier date than the sixteenth century; nor in edifices of such a description, subject to decay and capricious alteration, are we to look for a ruin, unless we pass away from rectorial and vicarial mansions to those of a less appropriated local institution; of this sort are Episcopal Palaces, which at one period were to be met with in this county, wherever the diocesan had under his jurisdiction a demesne, valuable for the income which it produced, for the amenity of its site, or for its vicinity to the metropolitan provincial residence. We learn with astonishment, that by county historians these have been reckoned at fourteen, a number which conveys to us a grand display of pontifical state and expenditure; but of which there is as little left to the present times, as the remains of the once splendid structures themselves. It is my intention to specify what those remains are, and to perpetuate them in your elegant Work, which will transmit them, when the present mouldering walls are utterly decayed, to pos-

Remains of the Palace, at Paignton, Devon.

Pub. by Mr. J. Bell, Proprietor, by W. Clarke, New Bond St. & Thompson, Old Bond Street. April 1, 1818.

[illegible]

terity. And as the subject is materially connected with the See, I shall briefly premise, that being removed from Bishop's Tawton near Barnstaple to the town of Credianton (now Crediton), that of Cornwall became there incorporated with it about the year 1032; and not long after this union it was transplanted to the church of St. Peter and St. Paul at Exeter, where Leofricus, who was lord chancellor and privy counsellor to king Edward the Confessor, was by him in person installed to the bishopric; and having enjoyed the episcopal dignity twenty-seven years, in 1074, by his decease, it fell to his successor Osbertus.

"From the first bishop, Leofricus, in a space of 762 years, there have been no less than fifty-seven persons who have had possession of this bishopric, inclusive of the present diocesan; the patrimony of which, as the records of the church indicate, was once very large, its revenues having been improved by several of the early bishops, and especially by Walter Branscombe, who, by craftily practising on Sacheville, the lord of a goodly castle at that time called Clyst Sacheville, about four miles from Exeter, got possession of it, and attached it to the temporalities of the see; but (as we read in the MSS. of Westcote) 'what became of all his land at last soe 'gotten?—it is a lesson for all men! for this bishop was 'more griping and greedy to gain than some (especially 'one) of his successors have been a wasting, reducing the 'episcopal patrimonie to a far less portion than Leofricus

'found it at his first instalment here.' In support of which assertion, availing myself again of the MSS. I make the following curious extract:

"'In the second year of king Henry V. A. D. 1414, 'at a parliament holden at Leicester, a bill or supplica-'tion was presented, which had relation to a former put 'into the parliament holden at Westminster, in the ele-'venth of Henry IV. which, by reason the king was 'then troubled with civil discord, took no effect.

"'That the temporal lands, devoutly given and 'disordinately spent by religious and other spiritual per-'sons, should be seized into the king's hands, sith the 'same might suffice to mayntain the honor of the king and 'defence of the realm, 15 erles, 1500 knights, 6000 'esquires, and 100 almes-houses (for relief only of poore 'and impotent persons), and the king to have clearly into 'his coffers £20,000. At which time it was found by an 'extent thereof made, that the church of Exeter could 'then dispend yearly £7000, which, according to the 'money now current (1630), is to be tripled, and soe '£21,000; and according to the new improvements I 'dare say tripled again; for it had then 17 manors in this 'county, 8 in Cornwall, and 7 in other shires, in all 32, 'and 14 faire houses, furnished severally with all neces-'saries but plate and linen (of all this trouble bishop 'Voysey eased his successors); I will forbeare to name 'them. The account is cast up and brought to this pe-'riod, that all is gone, and the now diocesan (bishop

Ruins of the Palace at Nallingh Lincolnshire.

'Hall) hath only *one* house (the present palace at Exeter) 'to rest in; and as bishop Grandison, when he built the 'palace at Bishop's Teignton, foretold, *Ut haberent 'episcopi locum ubi caput suum reclinarent, si forte in 'manum regis earum temporalia caperentur.* Thus ob- 'serves sir William Pole, speaking of BISHOP'S CLYST, '"As Bronscombe cunningly gott itt, soe did bishop 'Voysey wastefully loose itt;" for having continued 'upwards of three hundred years a faire and predi- 'lected palace of the see of Exeter, bishop Voysey 'returned it back to the laity, and gave it to John erle of 'Bedford.'—Francis earl of Bedford was possessor of Bishop's Clyst when sir William made his collections. The knight died in 1635, and from memoranda, added to some curious MSS. of my maternal ancestor, sir Nicholas Martyn, I find that Peter Beavis, esq. who married a sister of sir Nicholas Martyn's, became possessed of it in a few years after, by whom I conceive the middle part of the edifice was erected (as the style of architecture appears to be that of the latter period of Charles I.), and as his arms conjoined with the Martyns occupy the compartments of the chief window.

"The appearance of the building, when the sketch was taken in 1800, was in some points indicative of the original design; it shows it to have been a place of defence, a castellated mansion. In addition to the tower, seen on the right over the roof, there then remained the moat, encompassing three of its fronts, over which, on the

aspect towards the west, there was a bridge communicating by a door with the house: since that time the property has been sold, the greater part of the edifice taken down, and a handsome structure raised by lord Graves, the present proprietor.

"Was I to expatiate on the peculiar and curious circumstances and incidents connected with this place, I should occupy more room than the nature of your Work would allow; I shall therefore hasten to give a few brief notices of the remains of those other palaces, which were either not alienated by bishop Voysey, or have been erected since by some of his successors. And of these, that at BISHOP'S TEIGNTON has nothing left but a few bare walls that will not admit of delineation. On these indeed the eye of the antiquary scarcely rests; for it has in view at the same instant the parish church, which is remarkable for its central tower with a projecting round turret, and for its western doorway, which, of the few semicircular Norman arches that we have in the county, is the most ornamented and the most perfect. The ruins at CHUDLEIGH carry with them but little greater consequence. The sketch comprises all that is now left of this once large structure; 'which only remembereth,' says Risdon, 'what considerable possessions the bishops once 'had, and how little they now enjoy in the place; whose 'bounty had been great unto the town, purchasing for 'them a weekly market and two annual fairs.' In the erection of a farmhouse, which in the name of Place marks

The Palace Tower at Paignton & the Church, Devonshire.

[illegible]

[illegible] Bishop's City, [illegible]

[illegible] near [illegible] church [illegible]

[illegible] but rise [illegible] view the whole of the [illegible]

its original destination, much of the materials have been employed; and the chapel in particular, after its desecration, having been constructed of marble, which is the stratum of the county, was sold to the neighbouring farmers and burnt into lime. To the beauty of the surrounding scenery, consisting of woods and rocks, belonging to lord Clifford, every tourist has been a witness, and it is foreign to my purpose to dwell on.

"Having thus cursorily noticed Bishop's Clyst, Bishop's Teignton, and Chudleigh, there now remains but one other palace, at PAIGNTON, of the number of those that constituted an episcopal rural residence; and of this we have no recording documents—tradition is even altogether silent, excepting that it was the palace of a bishop. To the church of Exeter still belong the great tithes of Paignton, which at least demonstrate a former connection; and as variety might be an object, the local circumstances of this place, seated near the church, on grounds gently declining to Torbay, might recommend it to some one of the bishops who had a taste for such beautiful scenery; or who perhaps, being an invalid, might have resorted to it for the sake of bathing and inhaling the sea-breeze. In the portion contiguous to the churchyard there is little but the pointed window to designate its ancient appropriation; but rising from the walls, and having in view the whole of the beautiful bay, appears a tower in tolerable preservation, which,

as it was not likely to have been constructed for military purposes of defence, was most probably intended for a gazebo, as on every side it had a command of scenes, which for luxuriance, beauty, and picturesque variety, could not be well exceeded.

"I am, SIRS,

"Yours, &c.

"J. SWETE."

Engraved by J. Greig for the Antiquarian & Topographical Cabinet from a drawing by J. Prout.

Trematon Castle, Cornwall.

Published by Richard Phillips, No. 6, Bridge Street, Blackfriars, London, May 1st, 1807.

[illegible]

TREMATON CASTLE,

CORNWALL.

TREMATON CASTLE is situated in the neighbourhood of Saltash. "Trematon" (in Doomsday, Tremastona, in Lehind Tremertown), says Borlase, "is in the parish of St. Stephen's, and was the head of a barony of the ancient dukes of Cornwall. It appears by Doomsday, that William, earl of Moreton and Cornwall, had here his castle and market, and resided here: but we are not to suppose that this William, or his father Robert (half brother to the Conqueror), were the builders of all the castles they had; for when the Conqueror came in, the last earl of Cornwall of British blood (by some called Candorus, by Camden, Cadocus), descended from a long train of ancestors, sometimes called kings, sometimes dukes, and earls of Cornwall, was displaced, and his lands as well as honours given to Robert earl of Moreton: and it is natural to think, that where the residence of those ancient earls of Cornwall was, there he occasionally fixed his court, as at Launceston, Tindagal, and Trematon."

"Carew, in his Survey, gives us this account of an ancient monument found in the parish church of St. Stephen, to which this Castle belongs. "I have received information," says he, "from one averring eye-witnes,

that about fourscore yeres since, there was digged up in the parish chauncell a leaden coffin, which being opened, shewed the proportion of a very bigge man. The partie farder told me, how, a writing graued in the lead, expressed the same to be the burial of a duke, whose heire was married to the prince. But who it should bee I cannot devise, albeit my best pleasing conjecture lighteth upon Orgerius, because his daughter was married to Edgar."—Now this Orgerius was duke of Cornwall, A.D. 959, and might probably have lived at Trematon Castle in this parish: but he was buried in the monastery of Tavistock (as William of Malmsbury says, p. 146), so that probably the duke of Cornwall buried here was Cadoc, hereafter mentioned. More of this Castle before the Conquest is not known. Under Robert, earl of Moreton and Cornwall, it appears by the Exeter Doomsday, that Reginald de Valletorta held the Castle: but the inheritance came to William earl of Cornwall, from whom it passed by attainder to the crown, with his other lands and dignities; then, as some think, Cadoc, son of the before-mentioned Candorus, was restored to the earldom of Cornwall, lived and died at the Castle of Trematon, leaving one only daughter and heir Agnes, married to Reginald Fitz-Henry, natural son to Henry I. We may therefore conjecture, that this Cadoc must be that duke (or rather earl) of Cornwall, whose sepulchre was discovered as above; his daughter being married to a prince of the royal blood. From Reginald Fitz-Henry, with one

Part of Trematon Castle, Cornwall.

of his daughters and heirs, this lordship of Trematon came to Walter Dunstavil, baron of Castlecombe, in Cornwall, whose issue male failing, it went with a daughter and heir to Reginald de Valletorta (temp. Ric. I.), who had fifty-nine knights' fees belonging to the honour of Trematon. His son, John de Valletorta, had issue Roger, who, having only two daughters, Eglina, married to Pomeroy of Bury Pomeroy, in the county of Devon, and of Tregony, in Cornwall, and Joan, married to sir Alexander Oakeston, knt. settled this lordship of Trematon on sir Henry Pomeroy, knt. his grandson by his eldest daughter Eglina: and this sir Henry (or a son of the same name and title, as is more likely), did by his deed, bearing date the eleventh of Edward III. release to Edward the Black Prince (then created duke of Cornwall), all his right and claim to the honour, Castle, and manor of Trematon. It then became again, as it was most anciently, a part of the dutchy of Cornwall, and so it still continues."

Among the rebels that disturbed the short reign of Edw. VI. we are forced to include the lower orders of the inhabitants of Cornwall, and according to the lord protector Edward Seymour, duke of Somerset, one or two of our principal families. Carew records, that the insurrection of the Cornish was first occasioned by "one Kilter, and other his associates of a westerne parish, called St. Keveren, who imbrued their wicked hands in the guiltles blood of one M. Body, as he sate in commission at Hel-

sion, for matters of reformation in religion: and the year following it grew to a natural revolt, under the conduct of Arundel, Wydeslade (or Winslade), and others, followed by six thousand men. With this power they marched into Devon, besieged and assaulted Excester, and gave the lord Russel (employed with an army against them) more than one hot encounter, which yet (as ever) quayed in their overthrow."—During the time of this insurrection in the west, the island of St. Nicholas is said to have afforded a safe protection to many of his majesty's loyal subjects. But among those who were not so fortunate as to gain an asylum, were sir Richard Grenville and his lady. In this commotion, "S. Richard Greynville the elder did, with his ladie and followers, put themselves into the Castle of Trematon, and there for awhile indured the rebels siege, incamped in three places against it, who wanting great ordinance, could have wrought the besieged small scathe, had his friends or enemies kept faith and promise: but some of those within, slipping by night over the walls, with their bodies after their hearts, and those without mingling humble entreatings with rude menaces, he was hereby wonne, to issue forth at a posterne gate for parley. The while a part of those rakehels, not knowing what honestie, and farre less how much the word of a souldier imported, stepped between him and home, laid hold on his aged unweyldlie body, and threatened to leave it livelesse, if the inclosed did not leave their resistance. So

Keep of Trematon Castle Cornwall.

prosecuting their first treacherie against the prince, with suteable actions towards his subjects, they seized on the Castle, and exercised the attermost of their barberous crueltie (death excepted) on the surprised prisoners. The seely gentlewomen, without regard of sexe or shame, weve stripped from their apparell, and some of their fingers broken, to plucke away their rings, and sir Richard himselfe made an exchange from Trematon Castle to that of Launceston, with the gayle too boote." Sir Thomas Arundel, one of the principal promoters of this rebellion, a younger brother of Lanherne House, married the sister of queen Catherine Howard, and was a privy-counsellor of Edward VI.; but from his attachment to the lord protector, with him he lost his head.

Trematon Castle occupies the summit of a high hill, at a small distance to the west of St. Stephen's. The remains of this once formidable structure are still very considerable, and when seen from the east have an aspect of great boldness and grandeur. From some points the tufted scenery which surrounds it, and the encircling ivy which envelopes its battlements, give it an air of picturesque beauty. The area, enclosed by the outer walls, is nearly circular, and contains somewhat more than an acre of ground. The walls are embattled, and are in many parts still perfect, though several massive fragments have fallen into the deep ditch which surrounds the whole fortress, excepting at the gateway: this is in good preservation. The entrance is under a square tower

supported by three strong arches, between which are the grooves for the portcullises; this leads into the area. At the north-west corner stands the keep, consisting of a conical mount, considerably elevated, with a wall on its summit ten feet thick, and rather more than three times as high. The space enclosed is of an oval form, measuring about twenty-four yards by seventeen. This is now a kitchen garden, but was originally distributed into apartments; the entrance was by a round arched doorway, opening towards the west. On the north was a sally-port, and probably some buildings, the surface of the ground being in this part very uneven. The view from the ramparts commands a fine prospect of the Hamoaze, Dock, Mount Edgecumbe, and Maker Heights. A branch of the Lynher Creek flows near the foot of the hill.

Launceston Castle, from the Prison Gate, Cornwall.

LAUNCESTON CASTLE,

CORNWALL,

STANDS near the banks of the Tamar, on a high rocky conical hill, commanding the principal ford of the river, which has the longest course, and is the most considerable in Cornwall.

The building of this Castle has generally been attributed to William, earl of Moreton and Cornwall, the son and heir of Robert, earl of Moreton, to whom 288 manors in this county were given by William the Conqueror. But this opinion is most probably erroneous, as the style of workmanship exhibited in several parts of the remains is apparently of a much earlier date. The walls of the keep in particular have every appearance of being considerably more ancient; and, from a retrospective view of the events that have happened in this county, the conjecture appears to be fully warranted, that its foundation is as remote as the time of the Britons, who would undoubtedly endeavour to defend their territory both from Roman and Saxon usurpation, by fortifying the more advanced and important situations. Carew, in his Survey of Cornwall, published in 1602, mentions the finding, about sixty years before, "of certain leather coins in the Castle Walls, whose fair stamp and strong substance till then resisted the assaults of time." These singular

coins, if they had either been preserved, or their impressions had been copied, might have thrown some light on the age of the building, as money of similar substance was employed by Edward I. in erecting Caernarvon Castle, in Wales, "to spare better bullion." Some Roman coins have likewise, according to Borlase, been found in this neighbourhood; so that it is not unlikely that the Romans had possession of this fortress, which, from its situation near the ford of the river Tamer, was a port of great importance. The earliest historical documents that are known concerning the Castle, mention the displacing of Othomarus de Knivet, its hereditary constable, for being in arms against the Conqueror. It was then, as before mentioned, given to Robert earl of Moreton, whose son William kept his court here. From him it reverted to the crown, but continued attached to the earldom of Cornwall till the eleventh of Edward III. when it was constituted, and still continues, part of the inheritance of the dutchy. In Leland's time several gentlemen of the county held their lands by *castle guard*, being bound to repair and defend the fortifications of this Castle. During the late civil wars, this fortress was garrisoned for the king, and was one of the last supports of the royal cause in this part of the county.

The late learned and judicious antiquary, Edward King, has so critically investigated and accurately described this Castle, as to preclude the possibility of advancing any thing new upon the subject.

Engraved by J. Storer for the Antiquarian Repertory, Polygraphical Coloured from a Drawing by J. Farey

North-gate Launceston, Cornwall.

Published as the Act directs by W. Tooke, New Bond St. & Longman & Co. Paternoster Row, 1808.

"It must be placed," says he, "among castles of very great antiquity, both on account of the manner in which the staircases were constructed, and on account of the small dimensions of the area of the inner tower." He adds, "We cannot but remark the similarity between this Castle and that of Ecbatana, the capital of Medea, as described by Herodotus.

"The keep is round in form, but very small, being only eighteen feet diameter within; but its wall is exceedingly strong, being at least ten feet thick; and within its thickness is a staircase ascending up from one side of the passage of the doorway, without any winding, excepting that of the mere curvature of the wall itself.

"The present height is thirty-two feet, the upper part being somewhat broken down; and it contained, as its only apartments, a sort of dungeon on the ground, which had no light, and two rooms over it, one above the other. The lowest of these, or the room immediately above the dungeon, was nearly as dismal and dark as the dungeon itself; and appears obviously, therefore, to have been intended merely to be used as a place for stores, or a sort of treasury. But in the uppermost apartment there appears to have been two large windows (now broken down), commanding a most extensive view; one to the east and another to the west: and also a fire hearth, with a passage for the smoke carried up through the thickness of the wall, towards the north; all which plainly indicates this room to have been intended as a sort,

of state apartment, for the actual residence of the chieftain. Such is this tower, or treasure house; this keep, dungeon, or palace (by whatever name it was dignified in ancient times), and its close surrounding works, are no less extraordinary; for we find it immediately encompassed by a second munition, still stronger than itself.

"About six feet or a little more from its outside, is an encircling wall, twelve feet thick, and nearly as high as the floor of the uppermost apartment of all; and the entrance through this wall, for the better security of the keep, is not opposite to the inner entrance of the keep, but is placed a little on one side: and to preserve still greater external strength, the staircase, which is only three feet wide, leading to the rampart above, is not here (like the staircase of the body of the keep) quite within the inmost substance of the wall, but is placed close to the inner area, separated only by a very slight partition of stone work.

"The very existence, however, of this staircase, surely shows, that Dr. Borlase must have been mistaken, in supposing (page 359) that the area between this strong wall and the keep was once covered over; and that the great openings, or windows, in the upper part of the keep above, served as doors to lead to a wall all round, formed of such covering; for if there had ever really been such covering, and if the windows above were once (as doors) the means of going out upon it, this staircase was not only of no use, but would have been a

Engraved by J. Greig, for the Proprietors of Topographical Collections & Drawing by Prout.

Witch's Tower. Launceston Castle.

[illegible] greatly were [illegible] the defence of the inner [illegible] in that [illegible] gained [illegible] of the two [illegible] would easily be master [illegible]

[illegible] wall, [illegible] con- [illegible] of [illegible] little [illegible] the left [illegible] right [illegible]

[illegible] wall is [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] feet in diameter [illegible] which is at [illegible]

means of greatly weakening the defence of the inner tower; since, whatever enemy, in that case, once gained the outermost of the two gates, would easily be master of the whole.

"This immediately surrounding wall, on the contrary, seems merely to have formed a little open court of guard; and it is no ways improbable, that the present passage into this little court on the left hand, might have been originally strongly walled up, and that there might have been no access to the second gate, except by passing all round the keep itself, from another gate through the whole of this winding passage, which would undoubtedly greatly add to the strength of the defence.

"Beyond this second wall is again a second surrounding circular area, in like manner with the first, only six feet wide; which was farther enclosed by a third encircling wall, forming a sort of mere parapet, on the very edge of the summit of the hill. This last is now almost entirely ruined, and appears never to have been above three feet thick, and only a sort of breast-work.

"The walls have a little irregularity in their thickness, in one part of the circle more than in another, which it is difficult to account for, except from the rudeness of the age in which they were built; and all these three concentric structures occupy an area on the flat surface of the high rocky conical eminence before described, of at least ninety-three feet in diameter. At the foot of the circular rock, which is at least 220 feet in diameter, we

are informed by Borlase there was formerly a fourth surrounding wall. The ascent to the keep was by a flight of many deep steps, carried straight up the slope of the hill, between two side walls, in the which were loop-holes the whole way, at proper distances from each other, for defence. This mode of ascent still continues, and the width of the passage is about seven feet.

"Beyond this fourth surrounding wall was also in former earlier periods, as well as in later Norman ages (as appears evident from many parts of the ruins), another external strong wall, and a great surrounding ditch: but this outward wall has been frequently repaired; and in its present state shows, that it was finally completed in the true Norman style, with several towers, and a gate exactly on the Norman plan."

At the foot of the rock at Launceston, there were unquestionably, in the early ages, slight buildings for the women, and other domestics, somewhat similar to those which Chardin describes to have been at the foot of each of the palaces, or treasuries, of the Mingrelian princes; and in the lower more extended court there were doubtless habitations for more attendants. That the very outermost and lower court at Launceston contained originally the ancient town, seems still most evidently pointed out to us, because even the present modern town is partly within what constituted a portion of this enclosure.

As the town of Launceston was a principal residence,

The Well near Launceston Castle.

Published for the Proprietors by W. Clarke New Bond St. & J. Carpenter Old Bond St. 1st May 1808.

of the earls of Cornwall for many years after its foundation, its consequence continually increased, and many liberties and privileges were bestowed on its inhabitants. Soon after the conquest, the market, which from the time of Edward the Confessor had been held at *Lanstaphadon*, or the *Town of St. Stephen's Church*, about a mile distant, was transferred to Launceston; and in the reign of king John the townsmen paid five marks for the privilege of removing the market day from Sunday to Thursday; but it has since been changed to Saturday. In the reign of Henry III. the town was made a free borough by Richard, earl of Poitiers and Cornwall, and brother to the king; and among other liberties, granted to the burgesses to choose their own bailiffs, who were to answer the farm of the burgh, which was to himself 100*s.*; to the priory of St. Stephen, in Launceston, 65*s.*; and to the lepers of St. Leonard of Launceston 100*s.* of his alms. He granted them also *unam placeam*, where they should think it most decent and honourable to erect a guildhall in the same burgh, to hold of him and his heirs by a pound of pepper, to be paid yearly at Michaelmas, for all service and demand whatever: he granted also, they should not be taxed when the county was, nor talliated by him or his heirs when the king talliated all his burghs in England. He also granted the inhabitants some additional immunities, which were confirmed by subsequent charters: and in the reign of Richard II. the assizes, on petition of the burgesses, were ordered to be

held at Launceston, and "no where else." This regulation was observed till the first year of George I. when an act was passed, that empowered the lord chancellor to appoint any other place in the county to hold them at which he thought proper.

By an act made in the thirty-second of Henry VIII. for the repairs of decayed Cornish boroughs, the privilege of a sanctuary was bestowed on the priory in this town; but it does not appear that it was ever claimed. Queen Mary, in the year 1555, granted Launceston a charter of incorporation, which vests its government in a mayor, recorder, and eight aldermen, who, with the free burgesses, have the right of electing the parliamentary representatives: the whole number of votes is about twenty. This borough made its first return in the twenty-third of Edward I. and had a mayor as early as the time of Edward IV.

The streets of Launceston are narrow, but many of the houses are handsome, and well built. The town was formerly surrounded by a wall; and two gates of ancient workmanship are yet standing at the south and north entrances. An apartment over the south gate is used as the town jail. The children of the poor are educated in two charity schools, maintained by voluntary subscriptions; and a free school, founded and endowed by queen Elizabeth. The resident population of this place in 1801 was 1483.

No remains of the very remote antiquity of this town

South or Prison Gate, Launceston Cornwall.

Published by the Proprietors by W. Lake Fore Street & Sold by Jary near Old Bond St. Nov. 1st 1808.

are extant, but a Saxon arch, or door case, which now forms the entrance to the White Hart inn: this is supposed to have been removed from the Castle, or to have been part of the ancient priory established here by Warlewast bishop of Exeter. The arch is composed of three ribs, the surfaces between which contain some curious orna-

S. Prout. del. J. Storer Sc.

Entrance to the White Hart Inn Launceston

mental carving; on each side is a handsome column with a rich capital; the shafts, as well as the caps, are diversely ornamented; that on the right side has a wavy fluting, the left is closely chequered: above the basements, which are square and bold, are two fillets—the whole is in good preservation.

Engraved by J. Stow for the Antiquarian & Topographical Cabinet from a drawing by [illegible]

Restormel Castle Cornwall

Published [illegible]

[illegible]

RESTORMAL CASTLE,

CORNWALL.

The ruins of this once magnificent fortress stand upon the summit of a high hill within a mile north of the town of Lestwithiel. It was one of the residences of the earls of Cornwall. Richard, king of the Romans, kept his court here: it was likewise the residence of his son Edmund. The hill on which it stands is, on the north side, remarkably steep, having its base washed by the Fâwy river; it is covered with wood of various kinds, which renders the scene remarkably romantic and picturesque. The entrance to the Castle is through a square tower, with a ruinous arched gateway; this leads into an open area, between which and the embattled wall of the ramparts are a number of apartments extending round the whole inside: immediately within the entrance to the area are two staircases, leading between the rooms and the outer walls to the parapet, which is seven feet higher than the top of the rampart: the rooms of the upper story were entered by a third staircase. This floor communicated with a small chapel, which projected nearly to the middle of the ditch that surrounds the Castle: from the form of its windows and gateway, it may be concluded that its erection was subsequent to the rest of the building.

Many ruins of the offices belonging to the Castle are visible on its north and east sides, which demonstrate it to have been of great extent. There was formerly a park round it, well wooded; but this, with several others in the county, were demolished by Henry VIII.

St. Cleer's Well, Cornwall.

ST. CLEER'S WELL,

CORNWALL.

St. Cleer's Well, which is situated about a quarter of a mile from the parish church of that name, appears to have been covered and enclosed within four walls, having two windows or openings, one on each side, and in front an entrance under two round arches. Of the remains of this erection the front is the most perfect, though partly covered with ivy; the water which flows from the holy spring forms a large pool before it, which was surrounded by a low wall, like St. Nun's Well, described by Carew: this was probably used for a "Bowssening Pool," as in former times it was certainly held by our superstitious ancestors as a bath of sovereign virtue. The practice of *bowssening* is related by Carew nearly as follows: "The water which runs from the Well fell into a square and close walled plot, that might be filled to any depth thought necessary. The insane person was made to stand on the wall with his back towards the pool, into which, by a blow on the breast, he was suddenly plunged headlong; while here a strong fellowe provided for the nonce tooke him and tossed him up and down alongst and athwart the water, until the patient, by forgoing his strength, had somewhat forgot his fury.

Then he was conveyed to the church, and certaine masses sung over him, upon which handling, if his right wits returned, the patroness of the Well had the thanks; but if there appeared small amendment, he was bowssened againe and againe, while there remayned in him any hope of life for recovery." Very near to the Well stands a stone cross, ornamented with a small portion of rude sculpture, where formerly the votaries to the Well, who supposed they had received benefit from the use of the water, might kneel to return thanks, and where a blessing was generally implored upon its use.

Engraved by [illegible] from a Drawing by [illegible] Presented by the Friends

Interior of Kilkhampton Church, Cornwall.

Published for the Proprietors by William Bond, No. 3 Carpenter Old Bond St. May 1809.

KILKHAMPTON CHURCH,

CORNWALL.

KILKHAMPTON is situated nearly at the extremity of the county of Cornwall, towards the north of Devonshire. This village is superior in neatness and other agreeable circumstances to the generality of villages in the county; its name is of Saxon derivation, and signifies the church dwelling town. Many places in this part of the country have their names compounded of Saxon and Cornish, occasioned by the mixture of those invaders with the natives. The barony of Kilkhampton has for many ages belonged to the Grenvilles, whose ancient seat called Stowe, of which there is at this time no remains, formerly stood near the village. The family of the Grenvilles, or de Granvilles, came into this country with William the Conqueror, and the Church of Kilkhampton was originally erected by a baron of that ancient line, whose sculptured arms are displayed upon almost every part of the venerable fabric. In this Church the elegant and pious Hervey conceived his celebrated Meditations among the Tombs, which he commences with a solemn description of the place.—" It was an ancient pile, reared by hands that ages ago were mouldered into dust, situate in the centre of a large burial ground, remote from all the noise and hurry of tumul-

tuous life. The body spacious, the structure lofty, the whole magnificently plain. A row of regular pillars extended themselves thro' the midst, and supported the roof with simplicity and dignity. The light that passed thro' the windows seemed to shed a kind of luminous obscurity, which gave every object a grave and melancholy air—the deep silence, added to the gloomy aspect, and both heightened by the loneliness of the place, greatly increased the solemnity of the scene. The next thing that engaged my attention was the lettered floor. The pavement, somewhat like Ezekiel's roll, was written over from one end to the other. I soon perceived the comparison to hold good in another respect, and the inscriptions to be matter of mourning, lamentation, and woe." The same author, as he proceeds, takes notice of an expensive and elaborate monument to the memory of sir Bevil Granville—"Swords and spears, murdering engines and instruments of slaughter, adorn the stone with formidable magnificence." Beneath is a tablet with this inscription:

"Thus slain thy valiant ancestor did lie,
When his one bark a navy did defy;
When now encompass'd round the victor stood,
And bath'd his pinnace in his conquering blood,
Till all his purple current dry and spent,
He fell, and made the waves his monument.
Where shall the next fam'd Granville's ashes stand,
Thy *grandsire* fills the seas, and *thou* the land."

Engraved by Lowry for the Antiquarian & Topographical Cabinet, from a Drawing by J. Prout.

S. Door of Tilkhampton Church Cornwall.

Sir Bevil's character is admirably drawn by Clarendon in his History of the Rebellion.

The southern entrance to this Church is peculiarly rich and beautiful, and appears of greater antiquity than any other part; it is through a semicircular arch, enriched with grotesque heads and several bands of zigzag sculpture; the arch is supported by three columns on each side, having capitals differently ornamented. Over

Font Kilkhampton Church Cornwall

the entrance is a stone bearing the date 1567, with this appropriate inscription—*Porta Cele.* Intended perhaps to form the following distich :

Porta cele, the gate of heaven,
One thousand five hundred and sixty-seven.

The font is of octangular form and capacious ; on its different compartments are sculptured the Grenville arms.

Engraved & Published by J. Greig, Oct. 1st 1822 from a Sketch by W. Varley.

Part of Truro Church, Cornwall.

Engraved & Published by J. Greig, Oxnitts from a Sketch by W. Varley.

Part of Truro Church, Cornwall.

TRURO CHURCH,

CORNWALL.

THIS Church is a spacious fabric of that elegant kind of architecture which flourished in England about the reign of Henry VII.: it consists of two aisles of equal size, and a smaller one, and has a modern steeple of very unharmonious proportions, which does not correspond with the body of the Church.

In the windows are several fragments of painted glass; and in one of them on the south side is the date 1518, the year when the Church was finished.

Truro, although of no very remote antiquity, may now be denominated the metropolis of Cornwall. Its central situation with respect to the commerce and chief products of the county, its improved and improving state, the regularity and handsome appearance of its buildings, its increased population, and the similarity of its local regulations to those of our principal cities, equally contribute to justify its title to pre-eminence. It is situated in a vale, at the conflux of the two small rivers Kerwyn and St. Allen, which direct their streams on each side of the town, and at the bottom unite with a branch of Falmouth harbour; at every spring tide they form a fine lake or body of water two miles in length,

and of sufficient depth to be navigable for vessels of 100 tons burthen. This advantage of situation has doubtless been a principal cause of its rapid progress.

The government of Truro is vested in a mayor, four aldermen, and twenty capital burgesses. The right of returning members to parliament is in these twenty-five persons only, though the number of inhabitants is upwards of 5000. On the election of a mayor, the town mace, by the custom of the borough, must be delivered to the lord of the manor, who retains it till he is paid sixpence for every house as an acknowledgement.

Engraved & Published by J. Storer. Aug. 1st 1815.

Monument in Pelynt Church, Cornwall.

MONUMENT IN PELYNT CHURCH,

CORNWALL.

PELYNT Church, near Looe, in Cornwall, is of considerable antiquity, being in a mixed style of Saxon and Gothic architecture: it consists of two main aisles, with a nave, transcept, and chancel, and two side aisles, one called Trelawney, and the other Bake. In the former are four marble stones, with appropriate inscriptions, to the memory of some of the Trelawneys; underneath is a vault, in which the remains of several of the same family, including the bishop, have been deposited: also Mrs. Pole, the mother of the present Mr. Pole Carew. In the other, or Bake aisle, on a plain slate stone, is a figure at full length, representing —— Achym, esq. who formerly was possessed of a considerable estate in this parish. There are several other funereal devices upon different parts of the walls. The principal ornament of the Church is a large marble Monument, erected to the memory of Francis Buller, esq. who died September 7, 1615; he was settled at Tregarrick, in the parish of Pelynt, and descended by his mother from the elder branch of the Courtenays, earls of Devonshire and barons of Oakhampton, which titles became extinct by the death of Edward, earl of Devonshire, at Padua, in 1556. Francis Buller was the

father of sir Richard Buller, knt. of Shillingham, in Cornwall, who was the ancestor of John Francis Buller, esq.; this gentleman, at considerable cost, repaired the monument of his ancestor in Pelynt Church, about the year 1726. His great grandson, James Buller, esq. of Downes, in the county of Devon, and of Shillingham, in Cornwall, is at this time one of the representatives in parliament for the city of Exeter.

Engraved by J. Greig for the Antiquarian and Topographical Cabinet from a Drawing by W. Cowling Esq.

Pendarvis Quoit Cornwall.

Published for the Proprietors by W. Cowling Bread Street Hill London

PENDARVIS QUOIT,

CORNWALL.

THIS venerable relic of remote antiquity is situated about three miles from Clowance, the seat of sir John St. Aubin, in a field belonging to John Stackhouse, esq. whose residence, Pendarvis House, is seen in the annexed Plate. This house, which is modern, is large and handsome: two of its fronts are built with squared granite. The mansion being erected upon an eminence commands some extensive views, particularly over the western part of the county. From the south front is seen a considerable body of water, which is kept up at a great expense. From this front is likewise viewed the Cromlech, or as it is provincially called, the Quoit. The Quoit, or flat stone, is supported by three upright ones of unequal dimensions, rather pointed at the top: its eastern extremity considerably overhangs the supporter nearest that end, and in size and weight appears to preponderate the opposite end; but notwithstanding this inequality, it has already stood the shock of many ages, and will probably continue in its present situation until the end of time.

There is a simple grandeur in the construction of these ancient monuments which gives them considerable interest in the view of a contemplative observer: we are

naturally led to trace back the important occurrences which have happened since the almost oblivious period of their first erection, and to reflect on the changes which revolving ages have occasioned upon every object around; —"cloud-capt towers, gorgeous palaces," and "solemn temples," have risen and been demolished; the tombs of heroes and kings have been despoiled; while these monumental efforts of the rudest age remain firm as the centre, bidding defiance to the potent and destructive scythe of time.

There is at present little doubt among antiquaries with respect to the original designation of the Cromlech; it is generally believed to be a sepulchral monument used by the Druids to mark the places of interment of the Druid chief, or such princes as were favourable to their order.

Engraved by J. Basire for the Antiquarian and Topographical Cabinet, from a Drawing by J. Carter.

South Porch, Launceston Church Cornwall.

Published for the Proprietors, by W. Clarke, Bond Street, Dec. 1. 1807.

LAUNCESTON CHURCH,

CORNWALL.

WARLEWAST, bishop of Exeter, placed at Launceston a prior and canons of the order of St. Augustine. At first they inhabited a spot near the castle, but were afterwards removed to the other side of the river *Kensey*, which runs under the hill, upon which the town is situated. Hals, in his MSS. says, "The then earl of Cornwall, who was a great benefactor to the collegiate church of *St. Stephen's*, near *Launceston*, used his interest with king Stephen to bring back the bishopric of Cornwall, and fix the bishop's see at *St. Stephen's*. *Robert Warlewast*, bishop of Exeter, opposed him; and in his first triennial visitation of his (Cornish) diocese, came and visited the collegiate church at *St. Stephen's*, suppressed the order of secular priests, and brought in, to supply their places, black monks, converting the church and college into the abbey and priory of *St. Stephen's*." From the ancient priory and church, now demolished, the town and parish of *Launceston* took their names; from *Lanstaphedon*, or in Doomsday Book *Lanstaveton*, the church of St. Stephen's: but, according to Borlase, "its ancient name was *Dunheved*, the swelling hill; its present appellation signifies, in mixed British, The church of the castle."

This town is esteemed of great antiquity; and, as the ground for probability that it was known to the Romans, Borlase says, that "Coins of Vespasian, and one of Domitian, were found in the walls of an old house; and in digging a vault in the church another coin was found, with the letters 'JULI' plainly to be seen upon it." At the entrance of the White Hart inn is a circular arch, carved according to the manner of the Saxons; and though there are not any buildings near it which have any correspondence, or bearing the least relationship to its architecture, yet it is not improbable that some similar remains were removed to make room for the erection of the inn before mentioned.

The present Church stands nearly in the heart of the town. Its architecture exhibits a curious specimen of the science as it prevailed in the beginning of the sixteenth century. It is low, and much obscured by other buildings: the tower is plain, built principally with slate, between which and the body of the Church are two small houses. Every block of stone on the outside of this fabric is richly sculptured with representations of flowers, various figures, shields, armorial bearings, and crests; the ostrich feather is very conspicuous among the ornaments, and no doubt was intended as a compliment to the young king Henry VIII. in whose reign the building was completed, as appears by the date 1511 visible on the porch. The Church is about 110 feet in length, and consists of a nave and two aisles: the nave is separated from the aisles

Sculpture under the East Window of Launceston Church Cornwall

[illegible]

by eight arches supported by clustered columns. Under the central window on the outside of the Church eastward is a curious piece of masonry, which is worthy of particular notice. It represents the penitent Mary Magdalen, to whom the Church is dedicated: she is recumbent on her right side, her head pensively reclining on her hand: the back ground is ornamented with flowers and other embellishments. Connected with the niche in which she lies, are a number of priests and musicians, ranging along the eastern windows, each with his bended knees towards the penitent Mary.

Below the windows, sculptured on shields, is an inscription running round the Church:

"AVE MARIA GRATIA PLENA, DOMINVS TECVM, SPONSVS AMAT SPONSAM, MARIA OPTIMAM PARTEM ELEGIT, QVAM TERRIBILIS AC METVENDVS EST LOCVS ISTE VERE ALIVD NON EST HIC NISI DOMVS DEI ET PORTA CELI."

Which may be thus translated:

"Hail, Mary, full of Grace! the Lord is with thee: the bridegroom loves his bride; Mary has chosen the best part. How terrible and much to be feared is this place; truly this is none other than the house of God, and the gate of Heaven."

"The whole of the structure exhibits abundant proofs of that false taste, which at the era of its erection

began to deform the productions of art, but more especially of ecclesiastical architecture, when the simplex munditiis of the pure Gothic had given way to meretricious finery, and abundance of ornament was deemed only another term for beauty and elegance." A good altar-piece, an handsome organ, a curious polygonal wooden pulpit with carved Gothic niches, are among the ornaments of the interior, which is characterized by uniformity and lightness.—Polwhele says, that "The church of St. Mary Magdalen was originally a chantry chapel."—Leland notes, "In the conventual church at Launceston were fair tombs of some of its priors; among which were those of prior Horton or Horestun, and prior Stephen." He also acquaints us that one Mabilia, a countess, was buried in the chapter-house.

South Porch of Morvinstow Church, Cornwall.

Published for the Proprietors, by W. Clarke Bond Street Dec. 1, 1807.

Engraved by J. Storer, for the Antiquarian & Topographical Cabinet from a Drawing by J. Britton.

South Door of St. Mawgan's Church, Cornwall.

[illegible]

[illegible]

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MOORVINSTOWE,

CORNWALL.

MOORVINSTOWE consists of a few miserable cottages, situated on naked heights, exposed to the rude blasts from the ocean. In Doomsday Book this parish is taxed under the name of *Orchet*, which place is now in the parish of Kilkhampton. The church of Moorvinstowe stands in a secluded bottom, between two furze-clad hills, open to the Channel at the western extremity of the parish. The appearance of the coast in its viscinity is exceedingly wild and terrific: the descent through the churchyard is remarkably steep; and little appearance of cultivation is visible upon the adjoining lands; the scene collectively is sublime and interesting. This venerable church is surrounded by the boldest works of Nature, and having braved the storms of many ages, presents to the lovers of antiquity a durable specimen of Anglo-Norman architecture. The southern entrance is through a porch which at present is nearly perfect; the external parts of this entrance are ornamented with a band of zigzag flat and inverted, and a string of roses springing from two animals: on the pediment is a group of figures resembling crocodiles, with a chain from their mouths, entwining a lamb; and at each corner of the pediment is a large grotesque head.

The interior door is an arch richly moulded, and ornamented with a variety of heads of the non-descript kind—these are surrounded with the zigzag ornament similar to that on the outer entrance of the porch. On each side of the door are three pillars with large capitals, diversely and exquisitely wrought in the peculiar manner of the age in which they were executed; some of the heads on this door having been defaced, it appears from their remains that the foundation of the artist's labour in their formation was nothing more than a plain round pebble, wrought into different characters by means of a hard composition. The church, which is dedicated to St. John and St. Philip, consists of a nave, two aisles, and a chancel. On the south side the aisle is divided from the area by five elegant clustered columns, with capitals highly ornamented, supporting pointed arches. On the north side the architecture is widely different: here are two plain heavy pointed arches, and three circular ones, sustained by round massive columns; the round arches have a profusion of ornaments of the same description as those on the doors of the porch; human heads, the heads of birds, with the zigzag moulding, are the most prominent portion. The screen and seats are curiously carved, and throughout this church the ancient method of seating in long fixed benches still prevails. The workmanship of the subordinate parts being in character with the rest of the building, has a most pleasing appearance, and demonstrates, that all the labour of completing the

South door of Morwenstow Church, Cornwall.

[illegible]

[illegible]

structure was under the direction of principle—beauty in proportion, and uniformity of style being evident throughout. The font, which stands near the north aisle, has the appearance of great age; it is circular and heavy; round the middle is a band of twisted work. There are several monuments in the church: the most observable are those commemorating the Waddons of Tonacombe, in this parish. The tower of the church is embattled and ornamented with pinnacles. This fabric has undergone at different times various alterations, under the control and guidance of ignorant men, so that many parts have lost all resemblance to ecclesiastical architecture, and some of its most beautiful, ornamental appendages have been removed to make way for the modern innovation of plaster and whitewash. Several of these outcast relics are visible in the neighbourhood of the church devoted to the meanest uses; such as fencing, landmarks, and other servile purposes. It is to be lamented, that the wardenship of churches is generally committed to the hands of men who, with respect to science, are complete barbarians; consequently whenever repairs are necessary, nothing but absurdity and discordancy prevails under their direction.

On this part of the coast of Cornwall the most atrocious acts of barbarity are frequently committed. Humanity blushes for the turpitude of our fellow-creatures, and is hardly willing to admit the fact, that in this land of boasted civilization are to be found ferocious, unfeeling wretches, called wreckers; who, instead of

affording assistance, and administering consolation in the scenes of distress, to which their peculiar residence renders them familiar, aggravate, in the highest degree, the horrors of shipwreck,

"Cruel as Death, and hungry as the Grave;"

plundering, and, in some cases, imbruing their hands in the blood of the defenceless sufferers.

St. Germains Church, Cornwall.

ST. GERMAINS' CHURCH.

CORNWALL.

THE borough of St. Germains is pleasantly situated near a branch of the Lynher creek, on the ascent of a hill, and is only remarkable on account of its ancient cathedral church, and the seat of lord Elliot, which stands on the site of a priory. The Church was originally conventual, and was annexed to the priory, which, according to the most ancient records, was founded by king Athelstan, and dedicated to St. Germains, bishop of Auxere, in France. The yearly revenues of this priory were valued in the twenty-sixth of Henry VIII. at £143:8. Its site was granted by that monarch to Catharine Champernoun, John Ridgway, and others. All the tithes belong to the dean and chapter of Windsor, who allow a small salary to the officiating clergyman. The west front of St. Germains' Church has two towers, both of which have, at a former period, been octangular; the upper part of the southern tower is now square, the northern one is nearly enveloped in ivy, which gives it a romantic appearance: between the towers is the ancient entrance, which is a fine highly-ornamented circular arch, receding. There are four pillars on each side, having plain square bases and capitals: the pillars are

contained within semi-circular niches; the arch is composed of seven mouldings, besides an ornamented band which surrounds the whole, and is terminated at either end with a projection resting upon the capitals of the outer pillars. Over the arch is a pediment with a cross at the top within a circle; on each side of the pediment is a small pointed window, and above these are three narrow semi-circular windows. The interior of this edifice, which consists of a nave and two aisles, is well worthy of observation from its antiquity, and the multiplicity of its embellishments. The north aisle is divided from the nave by five short thick columns, each of them connected by a low arch, with a semi-column opposite to it in the wall: all the capitals of the columns are square, and highly sculptured: in that part now used as a chancel is an ancient seat, called the bishop's chair. The episcopal see for Cornwall was fixed here about the year 981, and continued till 1050, when Leofric, bishop of Crediton, united both bishoprics in the church of St. Peter, at Exeter.

Lanercost Priory, Cumberland.

Published for the Proprietors by Wm Clarke, Bookseller, Ludgate-street.

LANERCOST PRIORY,

CUMBERLAND.

THIS Priory was founded for Augustine canons in the year 1169 by Robert de Vallibus, lord of Gisland, who endowed it with all the land lying between the Roman wall and Irthing and between Burgh and Poltross. The possessions of the canons increased by various benefactions, and charters of confirmation were granted to them by Henry II. and Edward I.; the last of whom was detained at this convent by sickness during one of his expeditions to Scotland. At the dissolution the revenues were estimated by Speed at £79 : 19 *per annum*. The site and demesne lands of the priory were granted by Henry VIII. to Thomas Dacre, esq. of Lanercost, and his heirs male, in "consideration of his true and faithful services." This gentleman was afterwards knighted; and by Edward VI. had other estates belonging to this Priory granted to him, his heirs and assigns. The male issue of sir Thomas failing, the site and demesne lands reverted to the crown, and are held on lease by the present earl of Carlisle. Part of the Priory buildings are now used as a farm-house, and some portion of the cemetery has been converted into gardens. The church was built in the conventual form, with a low tower embrasured. The portal at the western entrance consists

of numerous mouldings supported by pilasters, with plain bases and capitals. Over the arch is a finely sculptured figure of St. Mary Magdalen, within a beautiful canopy, to whom the church was dedicated. Round the whole upper compartment of the building runs a colonnade of pointed arches supported on single pillars, which has a most elegant appearance. The western part of this edifice has been fitted up for the parochial church of Lanercost. The transcepts are complete ruins, containing remains of various tombs of the Howard and Dacre families, now mouldering to dust: indeed, so little attention has been paid to this depository of departed greatness, that the body of lord William Dacre was a few years back disinterred, and the leaden coffin in which it had been buried stolen!!!

Tolcde House, Cornwall.

the hall leads towards a chamber in which Charles II. slept for several nights.

COTEHELE HOUSE,

CORNWALL.

THIS is an ancient mansion in the parish of Calstock, in the county of Cornwall, and formerly gave name to a family, the heiress of which married an ancestor of the noble family of Mount-Edgecumbe. The earl at presents holds this among his other possessions.

It is situated on the banks of the river Tamar, which receives its principal ornaments from Cotehele House and Mount-Edgecumbe. This house is an irregular stone building, which encloses a small quadrangle, to which there is an entrance under a square tower on the south. Another square tower, in which are several spacious apartments, is situated beyond the north side of this court. There are two styles of building in the windows; those towards the east and south being narrow, and those towards the quadrangle and in the north tower are wide and square. It appears to have been repaired about the year 1627, from that date being carved over the gateway.

The mansion is an object of curiosity, as exhibiting all the essentials of baronial magnificence. The furniture is at least 250 years old. The hall is amply decorated with various implements of ancient armour: at the end is the figure of a warrior armed cap-a-pee. The staircase from the hall leads towards a chamber in which Charles II. slept for several nights.

The rooms are mostly hung with tapestry. The chapel is small. Another chapel in the Gothic style, situated upon a rocky eminence, rising very steeply from the river, is remarkable for the following circumstance which gave rise to its foundation:

Sir Richard Edgecumbe was driven to hide himself in the thick woods of his domain which overhung the river, on account of his attachment to the earl of Richmond, afterwards Henry VII.; and being pursued by king Richard's party very closely, he found no other way to extricate himself from his danger but by policy; he therefore put a stone into his cap and threw them into the river: being covered by the shelter of the surrounding forest, and his pursuers, seeing the floating cap, imagining that in a state of desperation he had drowned himself, gave over the pursuit; and sir Richard found means to escape to Britanny, to await the fortune of better times. On his restoration to his country, this gentleman was appointed comptroller of the household to Henry VII. by whom he was sent ambassador to France; and dying, on his return, at Morlaix in Britanny, he was buried at a neighbouring church, and his cenotaph placed in this chapel, which he had founded; where he is figured on a painted tablet as a knight in armour, kneeling on one knee, his helmet and gauntlet by his side, and a bishop before him.